

# @GUELPH

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## B.Sc. Grad Is Commonwealth Scholar

*Microbiology major will spend year in England learning sophisticated methods of studying macromolecules*

**M**ICROBIOLOGY graduate Andrew Perrin will move a step closer to his career goal of clinical research by spending the next year in research laboratories in England under a Commonwealth Scholarship.

Perrin, who completed his undergraduate degree at Guelph in December, will spend a year at Imperial College, part of the University of London, learning sophisticated methods of studying the structures of macromolecules. Imperial College counts among its alumni writer H.G. Wells and Nobel laureates Sir Alexander Fleming and Sir Ernst Chain, co-discoverers of penicillin.

The prestigious Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan is awarded to students with high intellectual promise who are expected to make a significant contribution upon their return to their home country. The scholarship covers all major expenses, including airfare, tuition and living costs.

"It's a great honour to receive something like this," Perrin says.

Besides the Commonwealth prize, he learned earlier this year that he was accepted into joint MD/PhD programs at three Canadian universities. He was also offered a Julie Payette Scholarship for graduate studies by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council.

In the end, he'll have the best of two worlds. He has deferred an admission offer from the University of Toronto's MD/PhD program until fall 2004, when he returns from his studies in England.

While abroad, he will learn modern techniques in X-ray diffraction, nuclear magnetic resonance imaging



Commonwealth Scholar Andrew Perrin plans to pursue a career in clinical research.  
PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

and cryo-electron microscopy for studying protein structure, particularly the molecular structures of disease-causing bacteria that would be no more than "fuzzy blobs" under a conventional electron microscope. Using these instruments and techniques, researchers hope to find ways to design drugs to combat these bacteria.

Although these instruments are available at Canadian facilities, Perrin says there is no single graduate program in this country that allows students to gain competence with all three. "The course in the United Kingdom allows you to become familiar with all three technologies at the same time."

Originally drawn to Guelph be-

cause of the strength of its microbiology program, Perrin credits a fourth-year course in biochemistry and structure of macromolecules taught by Prof. Rod Merrill, Chemistry and Biochemistry, for sparking his interest in protein structure.

Perrin took that course after spending a two-semester work term in the research lab of Brett Finlay at the University of British Columbia. Finlay is a top North American scientist in cellular microbiology who was recently profiled in *Time* magazine as one of Canada's five best medical researchers. He and Perrin co-authored two peer-reviewed articles on how pathogens modulate host cells, particularly among bacteria that cause morbidity and mortality among children in underdeveloped countries.

"These bacteria inject proteins into host cells, where they bind to host proteins and change the way the cell works," says Perrin, who plans to pursue a clinical research career in bacterial modulation of host cells.

That UBC co-op term came about through the efforts of Prof. Chris Whitfield, acting chair of the Department of Microbiology and holder of a Canada Research Chair in Molecular Microbiology.

"Andrew is without a doubt the brightest undergraduate I have had the pleasure to teach," says Whitfield. "The majority of his success is achieved through a high level of motivation, organization and dedication."

Currently, Perrin is working as a summer research student at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children,

*Continued on page 10*

## NSERC Boosts Guelph Research

*Investment to help develop new generation of scientists*

**U**OF G HAS RECEIVED an investment of \$19.45 million over five years from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) of Canada to advance 104 research projects in science and engineering.

The funding was announced today by Secretary of State Rey Pagtakhan on behalf of Allan Rock, minister of industry and minister responsible for NSERC. The Guelph discovery grants are among 2,752 new grants worth \$325 million over five years to university professors in 67 Canadian post-secondary institutions.

"These grants are a tribute to our outstanding faculty and reflect Guelph's dedication to innovative research and scientific discovery," says president Mordechai Rozanski. "It is with sincere thanks that I recognize Minister Rock and the Government of Canada for this funding and for their support in helping Guelph fulfil its research and teaching objectives."

Adds Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research): "These investments enable our researchers to continue to excel in their disciplines and to deliver high-level research training to our students."

Rock says Ottawa wants Canada to be one of the top five countries in the world for research and development. "NSERC-funded researchers are the bright minds who are making the discoveries that drive tomorrow's innovations," he says.

The 104 projects funded will ultimately involve more than 200 faculty and graduate students from a variety of campus departments

*Continued on page 10*

## Mac 100 Celebration Has Stamp of Approval

*Alumni Weekend 2003 celebrates legacy of Macdonald Institute and campus traditions*

**W**HEREVER THEY ARE in Canada, U of G alumni can take part in this year's Alumni Weekend celebration for only 48 cents, plus GST.

Canada Post will issue a new domestic stamp June 20 to mark the 100th anniversary of the founding of Macdonald Institute. The commemorative stamp will go on sale in post offices across the country while Alumni Weekend kicks off on campus with a special event to unveil the stamp's design.

"It's an honour for our founding college to be recognized as part of

Canada Post's 2003 stamp program," says Prof. Alun Joseph, dean of the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences. "Macdonald Institute created a wonderful legacy of applied learning, social responsibility and distinguished graduates. Many have worked tenaciously to plan an appropriate anniversary celebration, and the commemorative stamp is evidence of their dedication to their alma mater."

A committee headed by 1962 Mac graduate Nancy Sawyer dug through the library archives to find photographs that would tell the story

of Macdonald Institute on a postage stamp. Their successful application to Canada Post will be acknowledged at the first of several Mac 100 anniversary events planned for Alumni Weekend June 20 to 22.

The stamp will be introduced Friday at 10:30 a.m. in Creelman Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

At noon Friday, the Mac-Facs Alumni Association kicks off its annual seminar series with lunch in the Whippletree, followed by afternoon sessions focused on research initiatives in the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences. Tickets are

\$45 and available at Alumni House.

At 7:30 p.m., Joseph hosts a book event in the University Club to launch a new history of Macdonald Institute written by Prof. Jamie Snell, chair of the Department of History (see story on page 5.) *Macdonald Institute: Remembering the Past, Embracing the Future* provides valuable insights into the education of women in Ontario during the 20th century as it chronicles the evolution of Mac Institute into a world-respected co-educational college.

*Continued on page 5*

## Rozanski Tribute Event June 5

**U**OF G FACULTY, staff, students and retirees are invited to attend a June 5 tribute and farewell to Mordechai Rozanski as he completes 10 years as president of U of G. It runs from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Gryphon Dome. The formal program begins at 4 p.m.

## Animal Care Services 11th Annual OPEN HOUSE

**Thursday, June 12, 2003  
12 to 3:15 p.m.**

**BBQ Lunch:**  
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## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

### OVC Renovations Approved as Part of Redevelopment Plan

**A**T ITS MAY 21 MEETING, Board of Governors gave the go-ahead to the Ontario Veterinary College to renovate the Reproductive Biotechnology Laboratory and to renovate and expand the Clinical Studies Building to accommodate the installation of magnetic resonance imaging equipment.

These renovations, estimated to cost \$3.74 million and \$2.54 million respectively, are part of a larger OVC redevelopment plan for which the University has received \$27 million from the Canada Foundation for In-

novation (CFI) and \$37 million through a federal infrastructure grant.

In addition to the two projects newly approved by the board, the CFI grant will fully support construction of improved barrier facilities in the Central Animal Facility and creation of a surgical diagnostic suite. The federal infrastructure grant will fund post-mortem and animal health laboratory redevelopment, research infrastructure and limited and special upgrades in the hospital.

### OMAF BUDGET, TUITION FEES

In Finance Committee business, governors approved the 2003/2004 Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food agreement budget, the tuition fee schedule for the executive master of business administration and tuition fee increases for the diploma programs at Kemptville, Ridgeway and Alfred.

### NAME CHANGES GET NOD

Board members approved a motion that the Family and Consumer

Studies Building revert back to its original name of Macdonald Institute in recognition of the institute's 100th anniversary this year. The change went into effect immediately.

New names were also approved for the campus roadways known as West Wing Road. The portion intersecting at Stone Road and Edinburgh Road will now be called Chancellors Way, and the portion extending from McGillivray Street to College Avenue has been changed to McGillivray Street.

Board members also accepted a number of proposals related to capital campaign naming opportunities on campus.

### ACTING PROVOST, ASSOCIATE VP (ACADEMIC) APPOINTED

In an in camera session, governors approved the appointment of Prof. Maureen Mancuso as acting provost and vice-president (academic) and Prof. Jill McCutcheon as acting associate vice-president (academic), effective July 15 (see story below).

## Mancuso, McCutcheon to Serve as Acting Provost, AVP (Academic)

**P**RESIDENT Mordechai Rozanski and incoming president Alastair Summerlee have announced that Prof. Maureen Mancuso will serve as acting provost and vice-president (academic) and Prof. Jill McCutcheon will serve as acting associate vice-president (academic). Both positions will begin July 15.

Mancuso's appointment will continue until the selection process for the new provost and VP (academic) has been completed. For the

last three years, she has been associate VP (academic), chair of the Enrollment Co-ordinating Committee and involved in several important aspects of planning for the coming double cohort. She has also served as Guelph's academic colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities.

A former chair of the Department of Political Science, Mancuso continues her academic activities as a highly regarded teacher and scholar, roles that she will maintain

as she takes on her new responsibilities.

McCutcheon has served for the past eight years as OVC's assistant dean, academic affairs. She has also chaired the Board of Undergraduate Studies and the Senate Executive Committee. During her secondment, she will continue to coordinate planning for infrastructure redevelopment in OVC and to oversee the implementation of the new fourth-year DVM curriculum.

## Police Investigation Continues Into Edinburgh Sexual Assault

**C**ITY AND CAMPUS POLICE are urging women to take extra caution when walking at night following a sexual assault last week on Edinburgh Road by the University's Dairy Bush path. City police continue to investigate the assault, which occurred between 11:30 p.m. May 25 and 12:30 a.m. May 26.

A 22-year-old female U of G student was walking south along Edinburgh Road when she was accosted by a lone male, reportedly armed

with a knife. The male is described as white, in his late 20s to early 30s, about five feet seven inches in height, with a thin build. He was clean-shaven with short hair, wearing a dark baseball-style hat and a dark long-sleeved sweater with a white stripe across the middle. Police are looking for witnesses who may have seen a male and female together in the vicinity of the Dairy Bush path at the time of the incident.

Anyone with information is asked to call Guelph Police at

824-1212, Ext. 399, or Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

City police are advising women to stay away from isolated or unlit areas when walking at night, not to walk alone and to make sure someone knows where they are or where they're going.

Here on campus, Security Services reminds members of the University community that they can call on U of G security staff to accompany them to any on-campus destination in the evening.

**@GUELPH**

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**UNIVERSITY  
OF GUELPH**

**SUMMER CONVOCATION RUNS JUNE 10 TO 13**

Some 2,300 students will receive degrees and diplomas during seven ceremonies June 10 to 13 in the Gryphon Dome. U of G will award honorary degrees to renowned natural history broadcaster Sir David Attenborough; Canadian historian John M. Beattie; Michel Georges, a pioneer in the field of domestic animal genomics; and Joan Hunt, a leading researcher in immunology aspects of pregnancy. Guelph will also bestow University professor emeritus status on retired faculty members Bill James, Engineering; Mary Rubio, English and Theatre Studies; and George Thurtell, Land Resource Science. President Mordechai Rozanski, marking his final convocation week at U of G, will give the convocation address June 11 at the afternoon ceremony.

**GARDENSAPES TOUR SET**

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre volunteers present their 11th annual Gardensapes, a self-guided tour of 10 private Guelph gardens. June 22. It runs from noon to 5 p.m., rain or shine. Admission is \$10 general, \$3 for children. For more information, call 837-0010.

**SPEED RIVER CLEANUP JUNE 7**

OPIRG-Guelph's 24th annual Speed River cleanup is June 7, starting at 9:30 a.m. at Royal City Park across from the Boathouse. Everyone is invited to participate in this community event, which will include activities for families and children of all ages. Participants can also attend a free barbecue at McCrae House sponsored by ReMax Realty. In the event of a major storm, the cleanup will be held June 14. OPIRG's annual community appreciation night will be held June 12 at 8 p.m. at the Boathouse.

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY RECRUITS STUDENTS**

The U of G chapter of Habitat for Humanity is joining forces with other university chapters in recruiting students to build a home Sept. 1 to 6 for a deserving family in Kitchener. The First Canadian Student Build project is connecting program chapters at U of G, the University of Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier University, McMaster University, the University of Windsor, the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Alberta to bring student volunteers together for this project. Students can apply by completing a form on the Web site [www.student-build.ca](http://www.student-build.ca).

**RACE CAR IN TOP 50**

A team of engineering students who custom-built a race car to enter in the Formula Society of Automotive Engineers competition in Pontiac, Mich., last month placed 47th overall out of 140 university entries. This was the first time Guelph had entered the competition. The 12-member team was advised by Prof. John Runciman.

# Planning for a Rainy Day

*Rainwater harvesting could help reduce the use of city water in gardens*



From left, Mississauga consulting engineer Alan Lalonde, homeowner Richard Chaloner, City of Guelph sustainability program co-ordinator Martin Lavictoire, graduate student Yvonne Cardoso and Prof. Maurice Nelischer will take part in this summer's research study of a rainwater harvesting and garden irrigation project.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

**T**HIS SUMMER, Richard and Norah Chaloner will be harvesting not just vegetables from their Guelph garden but rainwater as well.

The retired couple has made their home available as a test site for a new rainwater harvesting and garden irrigation system being studied by Prof. Maurice Nelischer, School of Environmental Design and Rural Development. He's investigating the system in a U of G partnership with the City of Guelph and the Guelph International Resource Centre (GIRC).

Concerns about water use prompted city officials to approach U of G this year for help in studying ideas for conservation.

"Cutting back on water should be something we aim for," says Martin Lavictoire, the city's sustainability program co-ordinator. "The less we use, the more we have for the future."

At the Chaloner's, Nelischer hopes to collect not only rainwater but also enough data to help refine a relatively low-tech system of rain barrels and drip irrigation designed to allow homeowners to keep their gardens green without straining municipal waterworks.

He notes that residential water use in Guelph rises by about one-third in summer, an increase attributed largely to gardeners.

Finding ways to encourage water conservation among homeowners is appealing to city officials watching new housing developments tap into groundwater supplies. Add in the past two summers' worth of drought conditions that have led to extended outdoor watering bans, and it's no surprise that ideas for conserving water have caught on. "It's easier to save water than find new sources," Nelischer says.

That's the feeling of the Chaloner's, whose average-size house and extensive perennial and vegetable gardens on Maple Street within a 10-minute walk of campus — and right next door to Nelischer's home

— have become an outdoor lab for the U of G landscape architect.

"We're both very concerned about protecting the environment, and we're concerned about dwindling water reserves," says Richard Chaloner. "If we can keep our garden going without using city water, all the better."

The trial system was assembled in two locations in their backyard this spring. On one side of the house, modified downspouts will feed water from the eavestroughs into a trio of modified plastic pickle barrels standing thigh-high on a wooden platform and connected to each other by plastic tubing. A similar setup will collect runoff water from the roof of a sizable garden shed behind the house.

Each barrel stands about 3½ feet high and holds 55 gallons. (During a recent heavy downpour, the barrels were running over after about an hour.) Mesh screens over openings at the top keep out debris and insects, including mosquitoes looking for breeding sites in standing water.

The idea of collecting rainwater for garden irrigation is hardly a new one. During the past five years, GIRC has sold more than 2,000 rain barrels to city residents, either singly or in pairs. But yoking together three barrels is a new step. Also novel is the idea of marrying rainwater collection with a gravity-fed drip irrigation system.

Rain barrel users currently have to scoop water into pails or cans to irrigate their gardens. Nelischer suspects many of the GIRC barrels go unused because of the inconvenience of hand watering.

A separate tube attached to one of the barrels will feed into an array of micro-tubules snaking out in different directions across the garden. The barrels are raised to give the irrigation system its pressure. Opening a valve will release water at a steady rate of about 1½ litres per hour. Twice a week, the Chaloner's will be able to directly irrigate their perennial beds and even individual plants without lugging watering cans or

losing water to spilling or excessive evaporation.

The trial will provide a first-ever look at the feasibility of a rainwater collection and distribution system for Guelph-area gardens.

"There are no data on rainwater harvesting in this climate," says Nelischer, who recently returned from a two-year teaching stint in California, where homeowners are required by law to use only drip irrigation.

He hopes to learn whether the system will collect enough rain to keep the garden lush all summer and to determine the optimum number of containers to use. Data loggers attached to the hoses will collect information that he'll upload to his laptop computer to measure quantity and rate of collection and use, as well as overall efficiency of the system.

A separate rain gauge mounted on the shed roof will allow him to compare collection and use against actual rainfall.

Nelischer's graduate student Yvonne Cardoso will help monitor the project, including collecting samples to be tested by the city for water quality.

Bill Barrett, GIRC special projects co-ordinator, says his organization wants to explore more economical and efficient collection systems, including whether it makes more sense to add barrels to existing systems rather than continue to sell single barrels in shotgun fashion.

"We want to escalate the project," says Barrett. "Rather than sell more individual barrels, we want to look at the effectiveness of combining them."

That way, he says, there might be fewer collection sites but a more efficient, economical system for homeowners — even more so if the drip irrigation system works, too.

The U of G/City of Guelph/GIRC consortium is also discussing ideas with the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. for outfitting new homes with rainwater harvesting systems.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

## PEOPLE

**ENGINEERS HONOUR GUELPH PROF'S CONTRIBUTIONS**

Retired engineering professor Walter Bilanski has received the Meritorious Service Award for Professional Service from the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers (CCPE). The award recognizes outstanding contributions to a professional, consulting or technical engineering association or society in Canada. A pioneering researcher in agricultural engineering, Bilanski's work has led to such developments as improved harvesting machinery for grains, fruits and vegetables. He was president of Professional Engineers Ontario three times and a member of its governing council for more than 20 years. He also worked on numerous CCPE committees and served three terms on its board of directors.

**PHYSICS STAFF MEMBER ELECTED TO B OF G SEAT**

Bill Teesdale of the Department of Physics has been elected to the staff/alumnus seat on Board of Governors for a three-year term that begins July 1. Teesdale is a 1986 B.Sc. graduate of the College of Physical and Engineering Science and has been a staff member in the Department of Physics for more than 17 years. The appointment will be ratified at the June 5 meeting of the board.

**HAGGARTY JOINS BOARD**

Mary Haggarty, international liaison co-ordinator in the Office of Registrarial Services, has been elected to the board of the Overseas Association for College Admission Counselling, effective July 1. She will be the association's delegate to the U.S.-based National Association for College Admission Counselling Assembly.

**DIETITIAN EARNS KUDOS**

Heidi Smith, a dietitian at U of G's Health and Performance Centre, is part of a group of 25 health professionals being recognized by Dietitians of Canada for their healthy lifestyle program called Act Now. The program won the Speaking of Food and Eating Award for excellence in communicating nutrition information to consumers.

## APPOINTMENTS

Lynne Sandmeyer joined the Department of Clinical Studies as an assistant professor May 1.

Karen Racine of Indiana has been appointed assistant professor with tenure in the Department of History, effective July 1.

Chris Bauch of McMaster University will join the Department of Mathematics and Statistics as an assistant professor July 1.

Allan Willms of the University of Canterbury in New Zealand has been appointed assistant professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, effective Aug. 1.

Xinming Wu of California will join the Department of Economics as a lecturer July 1, to be appointed assistant professor on completion of his PhD.

# OVC Grad Claims Two Alumni Awards

OAC and CPES grads honoured for volunteerism and career achievement

A 1950 GRADUATE of the Ontario Veterinary College will receive double honours during Alumni Weekend as recipient of both the U of G Alumni Association (UGAA) Alumnus of Honour Award and the OVC Distinguished Alumnus Award. Scientist and businessman Clifford Chappel will be honoured at the June 21 President's Luncheon, along with 1958 OAC diploma graduate Bruce Christie, who will receive the Alumni Volunteer Award.

The UGAA is also recognizing 1996 engineering graduate Janey (Piroli) Dobson for professional achievement and community involvement. She will receive the Medal of Achievement at the June 10 convocation ceremony for the College of Physical and Engineering Science.

Chappel is a Guelph native who studied veterinary medicine at OVC, then earned a PhD in investigative medicine at McGill University. He joined Ayerst Laboratories in Montreal as director of biological research and began a distinguished research career that has saved numerous lives and contributed immeasurably to the development of safer drug therapies.

While at Ayerst, he supervised the development of a new appetite suppressant and drugs for the treatment of intractable cough. He also discovered acepromazine, the most widely used tranquilizer for animals. His research on



Clifford Chappel

PHOTOS BY GRANT MARTIN

beer drinkers. As a result, the use of these salts was discontinued.

Chappel also founded a Montreal company now known as Technitrol Eco, which conducts environmental research, and a toxicology consulting company in Mississauga called Cantox Inc. He established an animal breeding facility in Ottawa that developed the BB rat, the first animal model for juvenile diabetes. These rats have enabled investigators to examine progressive changes in the pancreas before the onset of diabetes.

Chappel is a past president of the Pharmacological Society of Canada and a founding member and first president of the Society of Toxicology of Canada. He has authored more than 60 scientific papers and has consulted for the international brewing industry and the International Life Sciences Institute in Washington, D.C.

In 1987, he established the Chappel Memorial Lecture at OVC in memory of his father. The lecture series allows Guelph faculty and students to learn from world-renowned biomedical scientists. The 2003 Chappel lecture will be given June 5 at 1 p.m. in the OVC Lifetime Learning Centre by Ingrid Sarelius of the University of Rochester.

The Alumni Volunteer Award recognizes the contributions that Christie has made to the agri-food industry and to OAC.

During his 43-year career with Shur-Gain (formerly Canada Packers), he gained a reputation as a dedicated professional and a manager who demonstrated a high level of personal commitment to those who worked with him. Christie mentored many young people at Shur-Gain (a member of Maple Leaf Foods Inc.) and in the broader agri-food industry.

He is past national chair of the Canadian Feed Industry Association and a recipient of its

Golden Award for leadership. He has also held leadership roles in the Canadian Agri-Marketing Association, the Ontario Farm Animal Council, the Ontario Farm Environmental Coalition, the Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario and the OAC Alumni Association and Foundation.

Still active in many of these organizations, he is currently chair of the national Expert Committee on Farm Animal Welfare and Behaviour and is a mentor for the Internship of Young Leaders program at U of G.

Christie has been active in the OAC Alumni Association since graduation, serving in several executive positions and taking an active role in fundraising. He also reinstated a cross-constituency orientation program for volun-

teers on all college alumni boards and orchestrated the 1999 nomination of all four of OAC's past deans as candidates for induction into the Ontario Agricultural Hall of Fame during the college's 125th-anniversary year.

His dedication to U of G was highlighted in 2000 with the establishment of the Bruce Christie Recognition Fund, an OAC endowment designated for student enhancement purposes. The ambitious goal of \$100,000 was set to echo Christie's personal motto of "aim high," a philosophy he shares frequently when mentoring future leaders for the agri-food industry.

The UGAA Medal of Achievement is presented to a graduate of the last 15 years for professional and community contributions. Dobson is well-known to many on campus for her involvement with the School of Engineering program Creative Encounters, her athletic ability as a member of the varsity rugby and wrestling teams and her work as a peer helper and volunteer for Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis.

After graduation, she served as a director and program co-ordinator for the national organization Youth Engineering and Science Camps of Canada. She joined Frito Lay Canada in 1997 and has since risen to the position of Ontario sales training manager. Her leadership skills were also put to use in a special project to develop a community investment strategy and co-ordinate the company's community contributions. She led a highly successful United Way campaign within Frito Lay, while maintaining her personal interest in volunteerism and community involvement.

Dobson is active in the Big Sister Association of Guelph, coaches with the Guelph Wrestling Club and is a director of the Canadian Amateur Wrestling Association. In addition, she often serves as a resource and role model for U of G engineering students.



Bruce Christie

drugs used in the treatment of asthma led to the withdrawal of an unsafe drug and stimulated pharmaceutical companies to develop better drug therapies for asthmatics.

In 1965, Chappel formed his own company, Bio-Research Laboratories Ltd., to provide biological research services to industry and government. In one project for the Canadian brewing industry, he discovered that cobalt salts, an ingredient in beer at the time, could cause a fatal heart condition in malnourished



Janey Dobson

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# A Century of Change

Book recognizes 100-year legacy of Macdonald Institute and celebrates its evolution into the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences

**H**ISTORY PROFESSOR Jamie Snell knows exactly which part of his new book on Macdonald Institute he'd flip to if asked to describe the most pivotal chapter in the institute's history. He'd point to the series of events following the Second World War when, still short of its half-century mark, the institute went from teetering on the brink of possible closure to a solid footing as Ontario's premier domestic science training school.

Snell's new volume, titled *Macdonald Institute: Remembering the Past, Embracing the Future*, was commissioned by the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences (CSAHS) to recognize the legacy of Mac Institute and celebrate the history of renewal that makes CSAHS as relevant to society today as Mac was 100 years ago. The book will be launched during a reception and book signing June 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the University Club. CSAHS dean Alun Joseph will host the event.

The book traces the past century of the former training institution whose legacy continues in teaching and research programs in parts of CSAHS, now the largest college on campus.

Published by Dundurn Press, the 260-page book begins with the discussions that led to the establishment of the Macdonald Institute in 1903 as a small institution dedicated to educating rural Ontario women.

Snell covers the evolution of the institute as it became the largest domestic science facility in Ontario under dean Margaret McCready. The book then details the restructuring of the institute and the broadening of its teaching and research mandate under dean Janet Wardlaw as it was transformed into the College of Family and Consumer Studies (FACS). Finally, Snell describes the merging in 1998 of FACS and the College of Social Science to form today's multidisciplinary college.

The book also traces that history through a series of about 100 illustrations and photographs, all previously published or exhibited.

Snell worked on the book for three years, poring through U of G



One of the early domestic science courses taught at Macdonald Institute was laundry. Here, students practise their ironing skills. Other courses included cooking, dairying and household management.

archival material, including correspondence, programs, photos and copies of publications such as a monthly magazine published by the Ontario Agricultural College during the early part of the 20th century. He

also interviewed former faculty members and administrators, most notably Wardlaw, who served as dean of FACS until 1983, went on to become associate vice-president (academic) and retired in 1987.

One of Snell's favourite stories involves a series of incidents during and just following the Second World War that might well have spelled the end of Mac Institute. His chapter about the war years details how the

institute was closed to students beginning in 1941 while the Royal Canadian Air Force commandeered it to train chefs and, later, for a wireless training school. Its closing and the dispersal of its staff during the war suggested the institute might have been considered unnecessary.

That changed when an independent review placed Guelph's program ahead of a home economics program then offered at the University of Toronto. Not only did Macdonald Institute survive, but it also got the go-ahead to grant a four-year degree.

"It was a pivotal event in the history of the institution," says Snell.

Among the eventual graduates of that bachelor of household science program was his wife, Leslie Good, who earned her degree in 1964, the year the former institute was folded into the newly established University of Guelph.

Snell was surprised to learn that earlier accounts might have overplayed the role of Adelaide Hunter Hoodless in the institute's beginnings. Although she was instrumental in persuading tobacco magnate Sir William Macdonald to fund the new school, OAC and the provincial agriculture department were also key in its establishment.

"The most impressive thing is the way Macdonald Institute has been able to adapt itself to changing circumstances and environment," says Snell.

"It starts aimed at teaching farmers' daughters how to take back some of the new knowledge about homes and good nutrition and hygiene in the hope that they would marry farmers and upgrade the quality of rural life. Fairly quickly it becomes clear that, while it has that function, there are increasingly young women who have career expectations and want Mac to be something else. And they vote with their feet in terms of which programs they go into and what they do with their degree when they leave."

Snell has also written books on the Supreme Court of Canada and on the history of divorce and old age in 20th-century Canada.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

Here is a timeline of events leading from the inception of Macdonald Institute in 1903 to the creation of U of G's largest college:

- |         |                                                                             |      |                                                                                                    |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1903    | Macdonald Institute established, Mary Urie Watson appointed first principal | 1962 | Last diploma class graduates                                                                       |
| 1903    | Mac Institute and Mac Hall buildings completed                              | 1964 | University of Guelph established                                                                   |
| 1920    | Olive Cruikshank appointed principal                                        | 1964 | Margaret McCready appointed dean                                                                   |
| 1925    | First College Royal on campus                                               | 1965 | First male students earn M.Sc. in textile science                                                  |
| 1927    | Edward, Prince of Wales, visits Mac                                         | 1968 | Janet Wardlaw appointed associate dean of Macdonald Institute                                      |
| 1930    | Katherine Beck appointed dietitian at Creelman Hall                         | 1969 | Janet Wardlaw named dean of FACS                                                                   |
| 1930    | Watson Hall residence built                                                 | 1969 | School of Hotel and Food Administration established                                                |
| 1931    | Ann Barber appointed dean of women                                          | 1969 | George Bedell appointed first director of HAFSA                                                    |
| 1941-45 | Mac Institute taken over by RCAF                                            | 1969 | College goes officially co-ed                                                                      |
| 1946    | Dorothy Lindsley Waldon appointed associate director                        | 1972 | First B.A.Sc. grads (FACS 1972)                                                                    |
| 1948    | Four-year degree course established                                         | 1973 | First HAFSA grads                                                                                  |
| 1949    | Margaret McCready appointed principal                                       | 1983 | Richard Barham named dean of FACS                                                                  |
| 1952    | First four-year degree class graduates                                      | 1983 | Gerontology Centre established                                                                     |
| 1953    | 50th-anniversary celebration held                                           | 1992 | Michael Nightingale appointed dean of FACS                                                         |
| 1958    | Mary Singer appointed chair of home management                              | 1998 | College amalgamated with College of Social Science as College of Social and Applied Human Sciences |
| 1962    | Federated Colleges founded                                                  | 2000 | Alun Joseph appointed dean of CSAHS                                                                |
| 1962    | Diploma program cancelled                                                   | 2003 | Centennial of the founding of Mac Institute, the educational root of the college                   |

## Alumni Weekend Celebrates U of G Traditions

Continued from page 1

Advance copies are available at the dean's office for \$53.50; cost at the book launch is \$39.99 plus tax.

On Saturday, a Mac Institute heritage event at 2:30 p.m. will include the opening of a refurbished meeting room in the Macdonald Institute building, to be called the Alumni Heritage Room. An outdoor garden will be dedicated to turn-of-the-century women's advocate Adelaide Hunter Hoodless. Founder of the Women's Institutes in Ontario, Hoodless also helped convince Montreal philanthropist Sir William Macdonald to fund construction of Macdonald Institute and the Mac-

donald Hall dormitory in 1903. The buildings will be open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for tours, vintage movies and the sale of memorabilia, including the history book and stamp.

In keeping with this year's Alumni Weekend theme of "Celebrating Traditions," a Mac-FACS gala on Saturday evening will capture the spirit of earlier Conversat and Mac dances. The event begins with a 5:30 p.m. reception in the University Centre courtyard, followed by dinner in Peter Clark Hall and dancing to the Royal City Big Band. Tickets are \$65 per person. For more information, send e-mail to

alumni@uoguelph.ca.

In addition to the Mac 100 events, Alumni Weekend will host almost 50 class reunions and the traditional President's Luncheon, which includes the golden anniversary celebration for 1953 graduates and presentation of the U of G Alumni Association (UGAA) Awards of Excellence (see story on page 4). The luncheon will be held Saturday in the Gryphon Dome, beginning at 11:30 a.m.

The UGAA takes centre stage again at 3 p.m. Saturday for a ribbon-cutting at the alumni course in U of G's new classroom

complex. The alumni association made a leadership gift of \$500,000 to The Campaign for the University of Guelph to support the project.

The event will also include the UGAA annual general meeting, a wine-and-cheese reception and presentation of the association's annual leadership awards to student groups. This year's recipients are the Central Student Association Bike Centre, the Anishnabeg Students Association, the WISTEM (Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) project, the English 6691 Class Project and the Centre for International Programs.

Constituent alumni associations will also hold annual meetings during Alumni Weekend, and the Alumni-in-Action volunteer group will host an ongoing hospitality room at Alumni House. A pub in the Brass Taps Saturday night will relive a student tradition, and the Alumni Weekend tradition of a farewell breakfast will round out the program.

For a listing of class reunions and registration details, contact alumni events and communications coordinator Jennifer Brett at jbrett@uoguelph.ca.

BY MARY DICKIESON

# BA Enrolment Grows, Grads Find Diverse Jobs

*Employers and students are realizing that the skills BA graduates acquire are the same skills needed to secure long-term, satisfying employment*

**W**HEN Jeremy Kominar returns to campus June 10 for his BA convocation ceremony, he'll be throwing his cap in the air in celebration of landing a job in his field of study. Like many U of G grads, he's showing that the stereotype of BA degrees having no worth in the workforce has finally been crushed.

Right after Kominar finished writing his final exams in April, he began a full-time position at Research in Motion (RIM), a Waterloo-based mobile communications company. He credits being able to land an information technology job during a slow hiring period to the unique combination of skills he gained at U of G. He chose to come to Guelph because it was the school most accommodating of his varied interests, allowing him to take a double major in computing science co-op and studio arts.

For Kominar, being able to do computing science and art simultaneously "kept me sane. I wouldn't be able to go through my whole life doing just one or the other — it has to be both. And it's great that Guelph could provide me with that opportunity."

His unusual academic mix has paid off. Kominar was able to make an impression at RIM during his last co-op placement.

"My managers liked the edge that I brought. They decided: 'He's an asset; we should seize him if we can.' I think one of the reasons they wanted me back was because I gave them a perspective no one else was bringing."

Employers and students are realizing that the skills BA graduates acquire — critical thinking, analysis, effective communication — are the same skills needed to secure long-term, satisfying employment.

Talia De Laurentis landed her job at Ryerson University as a fundraising campaign assistant only a month after finishing her BA in political science in 2000.

"I've been able to apply all the skills I learned at U of G to my job," she says. "From my academics, I learned the valuable tools of research, analytical assessment, problem solving, oral communication, knowledge of business-government relations, knowledge of predominant Canadian people and public relations."

De Laurentis says it was Guelph faculty and staff who made her University experience so valuable. "Faculty and staff in the Department of Political Science were very helpful and approachable. I was able to learn about post-secondary issues from a faculty and staff perspective, which has been a great asset in my work at Ryerson."

Prof. Alun Joseph, dean of the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences, says De Laurentis's success is typical.

"It's always a pleasure for me to hear back from our social science graduates and their employers because the feedback I get is invariably very positive," he says. "Repeatedly, graduates tell me they've discovered how much they learned at Guelph and how many marketable skills they acquired in their BA."

Mathew Burnett, a 2002 honours economics graduate who does financial analysis and consulting for a commercial real estate company, CB Richard Ellis Ltd., says the skills obtained at U of G have been invaluable to his career.

"Many of the theoretical concepts I encountered while at Guelph I use in my current work, and many of the writing skills — especially writing under time pressure — is very important and useful. Perhaps the most important skill that my time at Guelph helped build has been the ability to do intellectual



Jeremy Kominar, who graduates next week, divided his time at Guelph between computing labs and the fine art studio in Zavitz Hall. That unusual academic mix has served him well.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

work well and fast."

A growing number of students are choosing to enrol in BA programs at Guelph and across the province, according to recent U of G and Ontario Universities' Application Centre data. Over the past four years, the average application rate for BA programs has risen by 22 per cent at Guelph and by 20 per cent across the Ontario university system.

"Students have really come to see the value of a bachelor of arts degree," says College of Arts dean Jacqueline Murray.

Thomas Morgan Jones, a theatre studies major, has hardly been able to keep up with all the opportunities he's been offered since his winter 2002 convocation. He worked full time at the Charlottetown Festival last summer and has received a grant to work in Doublejoint Theatre in Belfast this fall. His children's musical, *Arianna*, was chosen as the outdoor amphitheatre feature for this summer's Charlottetown Festival July 1 to Aug. 15. In February, his play *Banshee Song (A Fable)* was an audience favourite at the National playRites Festival of new Canadian plays in Calgary. And his children's play, *Pointy Ears, Hairy Warts & Other Monumental Misunderstandings*, will be staged at both the Toronto and London fringe festivals this summer.

Jones credits U of G's drama program and faculty for his success. "Guelph was essential for my writing and directing development," he says. "The blend of academic and practical is fantastic, and so are the instructors."

Meredith McNulty, a classical languages

major and 2002 President's Scholar from Dartmouth, N.S., was also lured to U of G's arts program. Although she admits her high school guidance counsellor tried to push her into science, she chose a liberal arts program for its versatility.

"I think people are realizing there's a lot of flexibility within the bachelor of arts program," she says. "You can major in computing science or in mathematics, and there are scientific options as well."

McNulty and many other students don't view a university education as just a vehicle for getting a job; they also value it as a way of participating in the world in the widest sense.

"I'm not basing my education on a career goal," she says. "I'm here for an education; the career will come second."

Like Kominar and McNulty, many students are enrolling in BA programs to cater to their interests. They believe their degrees will lead to careers that will use their strengths as well as their passions.

"Let's face it, students vote with their feet," says Murray. "They're our biggest barometer of what it is they want to do with their lives and what options they see open to them. They're telling us very clearly that it's the liberal arts that capture their imaginations and provide them with the skills to cope in our world."

Instead of thinking she needs to be in a program that filters students into a specific career path, McNulty believes her education will provide her with more options after graduation. "With an arts degree, you do have more job op-

tions. You can manipulate it to fit whatever you'd like to do."

Employers value the diversity of a BA education, says Joseph. "Over the years, I've found that employers tend to be very matter-of-fact about the BA. They often see its enduring strength more clearly than those of us who are partly blinded through proximity."

Apart from the growing interest in BA programs province-wide, what draws students to Guelph's programs in particular?

Publicized university rankings and surveys echo that it's Guelph's focus on students, its award-winning faculty and its friendly atmosphere that make U of G the country's top comprehensive university.

For McNulty, it was the size of the University and her specific program that drew her from Dartmouth.

"I've always been interested in classics as well as Greek and Latin. I found out that Guelph had a classical languages program, whereas many of the universities I looked at had Latin or Romance languages but not the specific combination of subjects I was looking for."

Murray says it's the way course material is presented at Guelph that makes its programs so successful. Faculty here have a reputation for combining traditional approaches to the arts disciplines with innovation, she says.

"There's absolutely no doubt that within the BA program, we have leaders in the use of learning technologies."

In addition, "our faculty are renowned around the world not only as teachers, but also as scholars and researchers, and they integrate their research into their teaching," says Murray. "The students are challenged at all kinds of different levels. And the mixture of small and large courses ensures that students always get individual attention in some way or other."

Beyond the strength of the classics program, McNulty wanted to get the inside scoop on Guelph before applying. Like many high school students researching post-secondary options, she heard through word-of-mouth about Guelph's reputation for putting students first. In her case, it was a friend already attending U of G who told McNulty great things about the University and helped her make up her mind.

Says Murray: "The learner-centredness of Guelph really does attract attention from students. They see it as a way of achieving their very best because there's a focus on them."

With the growth in enrolment expected this fall because of the double cohort, hiring more faculty is the College of Arts's main strategy for ensuring a quality learning experience for its students, says the dean. The college has boosted the number of tenured and probationary faculty from 78 to 94 since 1999. Twelve new contract positions were added this year as well.

"One of our requirements is to ensure that we have enough faculty to think of different types of course delivery," says Murray. "We're certainly focusing on developing strengths in a couple of areas of interdisciplinary interest."

Five faculty with specialties in Latin American studies are among the new hires. Interdisciplinary programs such as the bachelor of arts and science and women's studies are providing students with more choices.

"The bachelor of arts program makes sure you're well-rounded," says McNulty. "I know that's an overused phrase, but it's true. The program makes sure you have experience in many different subject areas before you finish your degree."

BY RACHELLE COOPER

# HAVE LAPTOP, WILL TRAVEL

*Prof takes his computing smarts into the environmental sciences and beyond*

By ANDREW VOWLES

**I**F PROF. DAVID SWAYNE, Computing and Information Science (CIS), had been watching the downhill races at the Collingwood-area ski resort that day in the early 1990s, his first instinct might have been to rush to the accident scene. As a longtime ski patrol volunteer, it had become second nature for him to respond to skiers in trouble.

That day in Collingwood, however, Swayne's emergency response might have been even more elemental. The victim this time was his eldest daughter, Stephanie. But Dad learned of the accident only after the fact, when word of her spill arrived at the family's Kitchener home.

Stephanie had injured her knee in the fall, but she recovered. "It was a scary accident, but it could have been worse," says Swayne, who has seen his own share of adventurous skiing from Canada's back country to slopes in New Zealand.

Today, he's seated behind his desk in the decidedly more sedate corner office of Blackwood Hall, getting ready to hand over the reins as acting associate dean of the Faculty of Environmental Sciences (FES). During his 18-month tenure, Swayne has dealt with a number of issues, including program revisions, a Senate internal review, a distinguished lecturer series and continued growth of the faculty's popular co-operative education component.

He has served as acting associate dean since early 2002, after FES's first associate dean, Prof. Michael Moss, geography, stepped down. Prof. Josef Ackerman, an aquatic ecologist from the University of Northern British Columbia, will become the new associate dean this summer.

It wasn't Swayne's first taste of administration during almost a quarter-century at U of G. As acting chair of CIS during the fall 2000 semester, he oversaw an internal review, steered the department's PhD proposal through Senate, and helped develop the administrative structure for a new bachelor of computing program and the department's involvement in the University of Guelph-Humber.

Reflecting on his current term in FES, he says: "I've learned I'm a darn good administrator."

Discussing his self-taught philosophy of administration, he says he's a strong believer in a flat management structure that blurs the distinctions between, say, a professor and an administrative assistant.

He harks back to yet another project that followed his brief term as CIS acting chair: development of the University of Guelph-Humber program. Under that partnership, Swayne has been a "point person" for CIS since 2001, serving on the curriculum task force and program committee. He's also been the main curriculum and program development co-ordinator for the distributed computing and communications technology program, which saw its first students enter last fall. Next fall, he'll begin teaching in that program, including courses on quantitative methods and ethics in information technology.

For Swayne, finding ways to bridge the gap between degree and diploma studies through the Guelph-Humber partnership was just another instance of forging links — something he says he's been doing in one way or another for years. Since arriving at CIS in 1981, he has held a cross-appointment in the School of Engineering. He is also an adjunct professor in computer science at the University of Waterloo, where he has collaborated in a Tri-Council Research Project on watershed sustainability.

Waterloo was already familiar ground because that's where Swayne completed his PhD in numerical analysis in 1975. He had begun his university studies in mathematics but switched to computing early, taking advantage of the opportunity to experiment with the university computer, which offered then unheard-of computational power.

After a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Regina, he landed a faculty position there before coming to Guelph.

It was only two years later that he began to investigate ways to hook computing power to solving environmental problems, which was then an unlikely connection.

"I was still doing numerical analysis, but I was always interested in the environment. In 1983, I started doing research in environmental modelling, then in 1985, I had an opportunity to



help build a model system for analyzing the effect of acid rain on North American lakes."

Research on water and the environment seemed a good fit for Swayne, who had spent plenty of time outdoors while growing up in Smith's Falls near Ottawa. "I think water from the Rideau Lakes runs in my veins."

Under a standing research agreement with Environment Canada, he has undertaken a number of environmental computing projects, including helping to develop a decision-support system called RAISON used by the federal agency in watershed basin management and planning.

Swayne is the principal investigator in a project incorporating the effects of Canada's lakes in evaluating climate change. That project, which also uses Canada's Regional Climate Change Model, is supported by the Canadian Foundation for Climate and Atmospheric Sciences.

Under a project called WildSpace, he's now studying models for monitoring habitat of threatened species in Canada.

For those and other projects, Swayne brings the tools of computing science, including expert systems, decision theory, uncertainty management and artificial intelligence, to bear on environmental and biological issues.

Traditionally the domain of the field naturalist, "environmental sciences has been a latecomer on the high-tech field," he says. But that's changed, he adds, citing everything from environmental monitoring by satellites to remote sensing techniques to his own models used to study air and water quality, pollution transport and climate change.

At Guelph, Swayne is the director of the Computing Research Laboratory for the Environment (CRLE), based in Blackwood Hall. That unit has undertaken a variety of research projects, from studying processes governing transport and the fate of various pollutants in the atmosphere and water to modelling ocean dumping and mine effluent. His work has taken him from the Great Lakes Basin to Lake Malawi to Australia.

In late May, he went to Austria as co-chair of the annual meeting of the International Symposium on Environmental Software Systems, which addresses trends in environmental software and the use of computing in environmental problems. He is also

vice-chair of a working group on computers and the environment for the International Federation of Information Processing and an associate editor of the journal *Environmental Modelling and Software*.

Swayne's work has also taken him into the classroom, supervising the senior colloquium of roughly 100 students enrolled in their senior year in any of eight majors under the B.Sc.(Env.) program. As an interdisciplinary unit, FES spans five colleges and includes more than 400 students. Among his CIS and FES courses, Swayne has taught environmental informatics, artificial intelligence and parallel algorithms.

He was among the first professors to offer a university course on environmental informatics in 1995, with support from Human Resources Development Canada. He has also been a leader in extending training in environmental modelling into artificial intelligence and uncertainty management in applied environmental courses. For his efforts, he has been named one of Guelph's most popular professors for four years running in the *Maclean's Guide to Canadian Universities*.

Not among his own students were his daughters, all three of whom registered in the B.Sc. program at U of G (all three also worked in the CRLE as summer volunteers).

Since graduating in 1999, Stephanie is pursuing a master's in social work. Leigh Anne graduated in 2001 and is a PhD student in neuroscience at the University of Calgary. Seanna Lynn is now enrolled in OVC's DVM program, slated to graduate in 2004.

"I am very proud of them," says Swayne, glancing at photos of the trio on his office wall. "They have done extremely well."

If he takes little credit for their academic choices, Swayne does allow that he offered more than a few hints on the sports field. "I was a frustrated benchwarmer in high school," he says.

All three played high school rugby, and both Seanna Lynn and Leigh Anne competed on U of G's varsity women's team. Stephanie, who had sustained a rugby injury, was a Gryphon swimmer and took up boxing to stay in condition. She has trained as an amateur women's boxer with the Cahagetown Boxing Club in Toronto for the past five years and has fought in several bouts over the past 18 months.

Although always a proud spectator at his daughters' sporting events, Swayne's own passion lies in skiing. Not only has the longtime downhiller tackled runs around the world, but from 1973 to 1981, he served on the ski patrol, an organization of volunteers who monitor small ski areas.

This past winter was the first in decades that Swayne's skis remained unused. That's because he was recuperating from a double hip replacement last fall. It was in 1998 that he first noticed stiffening in his joints, which was eventually diagnosed as ankylosing spondylitis, a progressive rheumatic disease. Now undergoing physiotherapy twice a week, he expects to make a full recovery this year.

Also on the books for this year is a new research project that will see him bridging a different divide. Working with colleagues at Algoma University College in Sault Ste. Marie, he is proposing to apply principles of expert systems and decision-making systems to aspects of forensic psychiatry, particularly in hostage takings and assessing children at risk in social welfare systems. He's developing simulation software to be used in training emergency workers in first-response emergencies, from police officers to nurses to social workers.

He recalls his own first response to a call in 1997 from a forensic psychiatrist to ask for his help in developing aspects of gaming and simulation and role playing for this kind of training. Thinking it sounded more like a cult video game than anything remotely scholarly, he turned down the request.

Today, he says this "sociomatics" project is yet another example of command and control and decision theory, effectively the same tools and concepts that allow computer scientists to help biologists monitor acid rain or agricultural pollution. Same tools, different field.

# Guelph Sex Conference Marks 25th Anniversary

Sexual health professionals from across North America come to U of G to get the latest information needed for their jobs

**E**XTRAMARITAL SEX, cross-dressing, erectile dysfunction, female genital mutilation, sexual abuse . . . the topics covered at Guelph's annual Conference on Human Sexuality over the past 25 years have not been without controversy, but they have been invaluable in giving sexual health professionals the latest information needed for their jobs.

This year's conference, "Looking Back, Moving Forward," which runs June 9 to 18, will explore changes in the sexuality field over the last 25 years and will look ahead to future opportunities and challenges.

It was when human sexuality researcher Prof. Ed Herold, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, saw the growing interest in sexual issues that he decided to plan Canada's first sex conference in 1979 to give people the opportunity to learn

about the latest techniques in sex education and counselling. That first conference, which focused on adolescent sexuality, explored topics ranging from teenage mothers and birth control to developing a positive self-concept in teens.

"At the time, I never imagined this conference would be continuing 25 years later," Herold says.

Aside from the complexities involved in planning a major conference, the biggest challenge, he says, "was that because we were breaking new ground in dealing with topics that many people still considered to be taboo, there was intense media interest in the conference, especially in those aspects considered to be the most controversial."

Because the conference always covers the latest sex issues, there never seems to be a shortage of media interest, says Karen Maki, man-

ager of program development in the Office of Open Learning, who's been working on the conference for 10 years.

Herold and Maki agree the conference wouldn't be possible without the work of a planning committee that is chosen to represent the diverse groups attending the conference. More than 70 sexual health professionals have served on the conference planning committee over the years.

"This committee has been very important in ensuring that we keep adapting the conference to changing needs in Canadian society," Herold says.

Over the past decade, the committee has focused on bringing in Canadian experts as conference speakers and workshop leaders.

"The initial conferences brought in U.S. keynote speakers," says Maki.

"Now, we want somebody who maybe isn't the biggest name but who is willing to get to know our audience and work with them."

The conference audience has included more than 12,000 sexual health professionals since 1979. This year, conference organizers expect to welcome 500 educators, nurses, physicians, therapists, social workers, clergy members, students and other health professionals.

According to surveys, one of the biggest changes that returning participants have observed over the years is the scope of topics covered, says Maki.

"Eighty per cent of last year's participants said the program is more diverse compared with when they first attended the conference. Sensitive topics are so professionally handled by our speakers and the conference participants, and I think

they really appreciate the chance the conference provides to struggle with new issues or to stretch themselves."

For Maki, the highlight of the conference has been the personal stories panels, which bring together people who have similar sexual stories to talk about their life experiences.

"It gives the panellists the chance to say this is who I am and this is how I see things and this is what it's like living a day in my shoes. The individuals are their own experts in their life experience. To introduce something new, we find those personal stories panels are very rich."

This year, talks and workshops will explore topics such as Internet pornography, lesbians/gay men creating families and radical trends in body modification. More than 40 workshops and sessions are planned.

BY RACHELLE COOPER

# Study Aims to Reduce Injuries Among Canadians

Interdisciplinary project's findings could save taxpayers billions of dollars each year

**P**ROF. Barbara Morrongiello, Psychology, is part of a team of researchers combining their knowledge and resources in an effort to reduce the injuries that kill 13,000 Canadians and hospitalize 200,000 more every year.

Morrongiello, who has been studying risk taking and injury prevention for 10 years, and nine other researchers have received \$1.2 million over five years from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) to complete their project, "From Knowledge Generation to Knowledge Translation: A Systems

Approach to Reducing the Burden of Injury in Canada."

Morrongiello and the other researchers from McMaster University, the Hospital for Sick Children, the University of Toronto, the University of British Columbia, the British Columbia Injury Research and Prevention Unit and Toronto's Institute for Work and Health will take an interdisciplinary approach to examining unintentional injuries in children, the workforce and older adults. They'll be looking at injury risk factors from psychological, epidemiological and sociological per-

spectives.

"We've all come together as a team, and each academic centre will fund at least one graduate student for several years," says Morrongiello. "There are so few people doing substantive research in the area of injury prevention that it's hard to address gaps in knowledge and programming. This funding is allowing us to train the next generation of researchers."

The team members hope to synthesize and integrate injury and prevention research from their various disciplines to determine the major

types of injuries and how the burden of injury can be reduced. The results of their project could save taxpayers billions; a 1998 report commissioned by SmartRisk Foundation in Toronto estimated the direct and indirect costs of injury in Canada to be \$14.3 billion a year.

The CIHR-funded project involves three steps: knowledge synthesis, prevention programming and evaluation of the prevention programs.

"Our plan is to look at these three areas for children, young workers and the elderly to see where we need more work, then implement prevention programs proven effective in initial program-evaluation studies," says Morrongiello.

The researchers will focus on fall injuries in the elderly because falls are the number one cause of deaths and hospitalization in that age group, she says.

"A hip fracture is highly associated with death within a year. Fall prevention is really death prevention

for older adults."

Young workers also have high injury rates because they're often given the more dangerous jobs to do and receive limited safety training, she says.

"Even though they have very high injury rates, there hasn't been a lot of systematic study of young workers' understanding of injury risk and safety rights on the job."

The third area of the study will focus on childhood injury because, much like the injury rates in the elderly, childhood injury is the leading cause of death after two years of age and the leading cause of hospitalization," says Morrongiello.

Once the research is complete, the next step will be to put the findings into action, she says. The team has submitted a follow-up application to CIHR to establish a centre for injury research and prevention housed at McMaster University's Evidence-Based Practices Centre.

BY RACHELLE COOPER

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## A S@GE EXPERIENCE

U of G's S@GE camp, a science and technology program for grades 7 and 8 students that runs each May and June, is welcoming 850 participants this year. Faculty from all colleges are involved in the program, which brings whole classes to campus to attend a wide range of sessions and spend three nights in residence. This year's special celebrity guest was Bob McDonald, host of CBC's *Quirks and Quarks*. Above, students from St. Gabriel School in Burlington attend a session on "The Geography of Natural Disasters." PHOTO BY JOHN CHAN

## How I Spent My Summer Vacation

U of G plays host to a variety of camp experiences during July and August

**H**UNDREDS OF YOUNG campers descend on U of G each summer, without a tent in sight. They come to participate in a wide range of summer experiences that include sports, science, theatre, art and just plain fun.

The biggest summer camp program is run by the Department of Athletics, which offers 12 different programs and a diversity of activities for participants aged four to 19. The emphasis of the week-long Gryphon Camps is on sports, of course, but youngsters attending the junior and senior activity camps also participate in arts and crafts, games, outdoor education and a weekly field trip. Also available are programs devoted solely to sports, including sport-specific camps that focus on basketball, hockey, soccer, rock climbing, baseball, volleyball and track and field.

Two new camps are being offered this year — Gryphon Girls Inc. and a tennis/multi-sport senior camp in partnership with the Cutten Club.

Gryphon Camps run June 30 to late August. For more details, call Ext. 56131 or visit the Web site [www.uoguelph.ca/athletics](http://www.uoguelph.ca/athletics).

For youngsters with a bent for science, the 10-year-old student-run Creative Encounters program allows them to explore the world of science,

engineering and technology in an interactive and hands-on way. Affiliated with the School of Engineering, Creative Encounters runs five programs during July and August for children aged nine to 16: the Creative Encounters science and engineering program; the TechQuest computer science and technology program; PAGES (Promoting Awareness: Girls in Engineering and Science); the Sidekick Leadership Program; and a volunteer program.

For more information, call Ext. 53045 or send e-mail to [cse@uoguelph.ca](mailto:cse@uoguelph.ca). Registration forms can also be downloaded from the Creative Encounters Web site at [www.thinkbigat/creativeencounters](http://www.thinkbigat/creativeencounters).

Rainbow Day Camp has been a summer fixture on campus for more than 15 years. Located in East Residences this year, the camp operates an eight-week program for children and youth aged five to 14. It continues to provide an inclusive program for children with special needs and has one-on-one workers to provide the support these children may need.

Rainbow features daily group activities, counsellor time and swimming, as well as weekly theme days, special events, guest entertainers and a family open house. New to the program this summer, Rainbow is launching a two-week Leaders-in-

Training (LIT) Camp for youth aged 12 to 14.

Children's camp sessions operate weekly from June 30 to Aug. 22. LIT sessions run biweekly starting June 30. Camp fee subsidy assistance is available. For more information, call 837-0387.

For budding young artists, the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre offers week-long summer art camps for children aged seven to 11. The emphasis is on fun through art-related activities, with each session focusing on a theme. This year's themes are "Taking It Outside," "My Masterpiece," "It's the Inuit in Me" and "The Art Lab."

Registration must be done in person at the art centre. For information, call 837-0010.

Over at Massey Hall, U of G drama graduate Godric Latimer is again offering Theatricks, a drama camp for ages seven to 13. Run in co-operation with Guelph's drama program, Theatricks introduces participants to all aspects of drama through a series of activities and specialized workshops. At the end of each two-week session, participants perform for family and friends.

The camp runs from June 20 to Aug. 22. For registration information, call 416-977-3660 or send e-mail to [theatricks@hotmail.com](mailto:theatricks@hotmail.com).

## Flower Power Helps Produce Better Eggs

Marigolds give new boost to nutritionally enriched eggs

**C**ANADIANS AT RISK of developing vision problems such as cataracts should be seeing more yellow on their dinner plates, says Prof. Steve Leeson of the Department of Animal and Poultry Science. He's putting lutein, a yellow pigment that improves eye health, into eggs. And he's getting that pigment from a truly natural source: marigolds.

Lutein is one of the pigments that give egg yolk its yellow-orange colour. At high levels, such as eight to 10 milligrams a day, it actually helps prevent cataracts and macular degeneration — permanent physical damage to the central vision portion of the eye — which affects 30 per cent of people over 60.

Currently, the average daily lutein intake sits at around half a milligram a day. But Leeson says preliminary studies suggest that feeding high levels of lutein to chickens will produce eggs with healthier levels for human consumption.

"Lutein is found naturally in spinach and most potently in the petals of marigolds," he says. "Spinach isn't a high priority on many consumers' menus, so if we can significantly improve the lutein content in eggs, it would be easier for Canadians to naturally consume their recommended daily intake."

The average Canadian consumes 200 eggs a year, including those added to recipes of processed and prepared foods. Currently, eggs contain less than one milligram of lutein. Leeson hopes that by adding pure lutein from processed marigold

petals to chicken feed, hens will produce eggs with much higher lutein levels.

His current work in this area is a continuation of previous nutrition research with Prof. Bruce Holub of the Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences. Ultimately, Leeson hopes to combine the findings into a super egg, based on the earlier success of the team's omega-3 eggs.

Omega-3s are fats that are recognized by Health Canada as heart-healthy compounds and also play an important role in mental health and visual functions. Omega-3 eggs, which are products of chickens fed flaxseed, hit store shelves in 1996. They now account for five per cent of Canada's egg market and four per cent of eggs sold in the United States.

Omega-3s in flax are converted in the body to docosahexaenoic acid (DHA), which Leeson says is "the best of the omega-3s." The team also has plans to produce omega-3 eggs that are rich in DHA (achieved by feeding chickens fish oil), once labelling regulations are sorted out.

"Eventually, we'll produce an egg that is enriched with lutein, DHA and flax omega-3s," he says. "If we can put the nutrients people need in the food they eat, we'll have a healthier population."

This research is sponsored by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the Canadian Egg Marketing Agency, Egg Producers of Ontario and Roche Canada.

BY LISA CAINES  
SPARK PROGRAM

## KEEP BUSY THIS SUMMER AT RAINBOW!

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\*Camp operates on Canada Day, July 1st
- ☐ Camp 2: July 7-11 \$145
- ☐ Camp 3: July 14-18 \$145
- ☐ Camp 4: July 21-25 \$145
- ☐ Camp 5: July 28-Aug. 1 \$145
- ☐ Camp 6: Aug. 5-15 (9 days) \$261  
\*Camp closed on Civic Holiday, August 4th
- ☐ Camp 7: Aug. 18-22 \$145

### LIT (Leaders-in-Training) CAMP SESSION Dates & Fees

- ☐ LIT 1: June 30-July 11 \$290  
\*Camp operates on Canada Day, July 1st
- ☐ LIT 2: July 14-25 \$290
- ☐ LIT 3: July 28-Aug. 8 \$261  
\*Camp closed on Civic Holiday, August 4th
- ☐ LIT 4: Aug. 11-22 \$290

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The final issue of @Guelph for this academic year will appear June 18. Deadline for copy for that issue is June 10. The first issue of the fall semester will be published Sept. 10. Copy deadline is Sept. 2.



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## SIGNING ON

The United Steelworkers of America (USWA), Local 4120, and U of G recently signed their first collective agreement. Here, members of the bargaining team gather for a photo. In front, from left, are USWA members Francie Niekamp, Wendy Langlois and Carole Ann Lacroix, Prof. Stewart Hiltz, USWA president Marg Carter and Margaret Ann Munoz of OVC. In back are USWA member Melanie Hardie, USWA representative Jim Harvey, USWA members John Tarrt and Tony Cengija, USWA rep Fil Falbo, USWA member Mark Evans and Tracey Alberico and Brendan Soye of Human Resources. Missing from photo are University reps Donna Sartori and Ron Elmslie.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

## IN THE NEWS

Editor's note: This column highlights Guelph researchers who have appeared in the national media discussing their work. Submissions may be sent to r.cooper@exec.uoguelph.ca or lhunt@exec.uoguelph.ca.

Prof. Gord Surgeoner, Environmental Biology, was featured in a May 17 *Toronto Star* article about the West Nile virus. On May 14, he appeared on CBC Radio's *Ontario Today* discussing the effectiveness of larvicides and on the Discovery Channel's *Daily Planet*, giving tips on keeping mosquitoes at bay.

Prof. Ian Barker, Pathobiology, was featured in a CTV *National News* story about the West Nile vi-

rus May 12 and in a special about West Nile on the Toronto CTV affiliate CFTO May 13.

Environmental biology researcher Jamie Heal was quoted in the May 11 issue of the *Toronto Sun* discussing mosquitoes.

Prof. Bev Hale, Land Resource Science, appeared on CTV's *Good Morning Canada* May 10 discussing toxic metals and was featured on CTV's *National News* talking about food and cadmium levels.

Research by Prof. Peter Goddard, History, on the writings of Samuel de Champlain was cited in Peter Mansbridge's column in

the May 12 issue of *Maclean's Magazine*.

Prof. Marion Joppe, Hospitality and Tourism Management, was quoted extensively in a May 8 *Toronto Star* article titled "Spas Thrive Despite Tough Times."

An April 26 article in the *National Post* on bad animal behaviour included comments from retired OVC professor Don McKeown.

Research by zoology professor Paul Hebert on a system to identify all plant and animal species based on their DNA sequences was featured in the April 1 issue of *University Affairs*.

# Getting a Clear Look at Dirt

CAT scans offer more complete picture of soil health

**S**OIL IS HEADED for a checkup, with researchers using a medical mainstay to optimize soil management while minimizing environmental impact.

Prof. Richard Heck, Land Resource Science, is putting computerized axial tomography (CAT) scan technology to work in the study of soil structure and composition. He says this will ultimately help improve agricultural and environmental practices around the countryside.

"A CAT scan provides a three-dimensional image of an object, based on material density," says Heck. "We're applying that technology to agricultural and environmental applications, and it allows us to examine undisturbed core samples of soil directly from a field."

These samples are a window into soil behaviour and how it affects crop growth, groundwater safety and wildlife, he says. CAT scans can reveal soil characteristics such as mineral distribution, pore arrangements, compaction, internal structure and root development — all in the soil's native state.

And for Heck, studying the soil as it occurs in nature is the key to adjusting current agricultural practices to mitigate damage to the environment.

For example, by examining the distribution of minerals, roots and pores, researchers can better understand the biochemical reactions that are occurring in the soil. In poorly aerated regions, some microbes produce greenhouse gases, which may have serious consequences for the environment. CAT techniques could

help researchers better understand these problems and improve management practices.

The traditional technique of studying soil structure involves casting soil samples in plastic resin and slicing them into thin cross-sections, like cutting a sausage. But this technique is time-consuming — a single section can take more than a month to prepare. A CAT scan can provide a three-dimensional analysis of a whole core sample in just a few hours.

And because the method is non-destructive, the soil sample can still be examined using other methods and techniques without being affected by CAT analysis.

Heck sees many potential environmental applications for CAT scans in the future, including tracking how plant roots develop, looking at soil compaction and understanding the infiltration of applied chemicals.

"Agriculture has both acute and broad-based effects on the environment," he says. "By learning more about soil configuration in agriculture, we come closer to understanding the true nature of these effects. And the CAT scan can evaluate soil structure and composition in a way that's never been possible before."

Other researchers involved in this project include Profs. Bill Deen, Plant Agriculture, and John Lauzon, Land Resource Science.

This work is sponsored by the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the Ontario Innovation Trust.

BY MURRAY TONG  
SPARK PROGRAM

# Commonwealth Scholarship to Fund Studies in England

Continued from page 1

where his supervisor, John Brumell, is studying the bacterium that causes typhoid fever. Learning how *Salmonella* modulates host cells may be the first step to finding drugs to combat the bug, which is a major health problem in Third World countries, Perrin says.

A 94-average student who was on the dean's honour list in the College of Biological Science, he credits his strong work ethic for his academic success. "I believe nothing's too hard to work for."

He also believes in sharing what he's learned, something he did as a peer helper with U of G's supported learning groups (SLG) program, which provides supplementary learning sessions for students in high-risk first-year courses.

"His group study sessions consistently drew large dedicated crowds, and his activities were well-conceived, innovative and created with the needs of his group members in mind," says SLG co-ordinator Mary Wilson. She and Perrin will

discuss the Guelph program during a conference of the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education next month at the University of British Columbia.

In addition to his SLG work, Perrin was a U of G Ambassador and an Academic All-Canadian varsity swimmer. He is also a certified ski instructor and was head sailing instructor for the junior club at the National Yacht Club in Toronto.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

# New NSERC Funding

Continued from page 1

and disciplines. They will involve research in areas that include biomedical sciences, engineering, chemistry and biochemistry, botany, computing and information science, microbiology, zoology and plant agriculture.

One of the projects, headed by Prof. Moira Ferguson, Zoology, will explore the evolutionary genetics of fishes. The funding will allow her to look at the significance of different parts of the genome in natural fish populations, exploring what genes are key to fish survival and reproduction in the wild.

"This is one of the first instances where genomic methods will be applied to natural populations of fishes," she says.

The NSERC funding, \$51,000 over five years, will allow her to conduct her research in Iceland and Cape Race, Nfld.

Prof. John Goddard of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry will receive \$51,300 over four years for his research on computational chemistry on radicals, bi-

radicals and excited states.

"NSERC funding will support the graduate students and post-doctoral fellows in my research group," he says.

One area of his research focuses on modelling the key enzymes by which fireflies generate light. The applications of his theoretical research into bioluminescence could be used in areas such as environmental control and biotechnology. Bioluminescent assays for bacterial contamination might be tuned using the predictions on the enzyme models, he says.

U of G faculty will dedicate a large portion of their grant funds to training undergraduate, post-graduate and post-doctoral researchers.

"The NSERC awards allow university professors to develop the next generation of scientists and engineers, who will be essential to Canada's success in the knowledge-based global economy," says Pagtakhan.

BY RACHELLE COOPER

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# CLASSIFIEDS

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Kawai apartment-size piano, walnut finish with bench, needs tuning, photo available; House of Brougham early Canadian reproduction natural pine sofa, love seat and chair with cushion, spindle style, photo available, will deliver, Ext. 53814 or pnagle@open.uoguelph.ca.

Handmade wooden clothes dryers, Ext. 56580.

Kawai upright piano with bench, open-grain walnut, excellent condition, 824-0275.

1992 Nissan Sentra XE, pearl beige, five-speed, power steering and brakes, cassette stereo, cruise control, electric mirrors, rust check, four Blizzak winter tires, excellent condition, 119,000 kilometres, 822-8811 evenings, 824-8388 or jclanmac@aol.com.

Furniture, bicycle, microwave, 25-inch TV, video player, baby items, 1995 Geo Prizm, everything in great condition, 827-1379 or quncheon02@hotmail.com.

Kenmore fridge and stove, harvest gold, 12 years old, good working condition, ideal for cottage or rental properties, Ext. 53005 or dban-erji@uoguelph.ca.

Mac computer system, 6400/200 power PC, zip and floppy drives, Jazz, printer, monitor, Ethernet, modem, TV tuner card, software, 824-7579 or pamacdon@uoguelph.ca.

Men's Rollerblades, size 9, 824-8287.

Kitchen counter, neutral colour; double stainless steel sink and kitchen tap, must be able to pick up, Ext. 52277 or jmillier@uoguelph.ca.

Weber Go-Anywhere portable propane gas grill, never used, still in box, Rachelle, Ext. 56982 or racooper@uoguelph.ca.

Classic three-bedroom bungalow on corner lot in old University area, open-concept living/dining rooms, updated kitchen, storage space in full attic, new floors, new roof, 15-minute walk to campus, shopping and schools, Mark, 767-8531.

## FOR RENT

Three-bedroom, two-storey house on Old Colony Trail, 2,000 square feet, 30-minute walk to campus, walk-out basement, washer/dryer, dishwasher, central air, available Aug. 1 for long lease, \$1,600 a month plus utilities, Leon, 836-4085.

Two-bedroom apartment near Hanlon and Stone Road, ensuite laundry, two baths, gas fireplace, exercise room and hot tub in building, available immediately, \$1,200 a month plus utilities, Ext. 56441, 837-8719 or krj@physics.uoguelph.ca.

Four-bedroom older house near downtown, large yard, available Sept. 1 for eight to 12 months, \$1,400 a month, negotiable, John, Ext. 56007 or jklirono@uoguelph.ca.

Furnished three-bedroom townhouse near Stone Road to share with working male, suitable for single mature student/faculty/staff or couple with no children, 10-minute walk to campus, laundry, non-smokers, pets considered, references required, one-year lease, \$500 a month plus half of utilities, 826-3829.

Furnished three-bedroom house in south end, reduced rent in exchange for care of two cats, non-smokers, available August to mid-December, Ext. 54981, 836-6264 or m.wren@exec.uoguelph.ca.

Luxury condo at resort just north of Barrie, two to seven nights, two-bedroom unit available June 22 or in fall, golf, tennis, spa, 824-1033.

Furnished four-bedroom, two-storey modern country home on two acres between Guelph and Fergus, available Sept. 1 to June 30, 2004, non-smokers, no pets, Doug, Ext. 53878, 821-8139 or dgoff@uoguelph.ca.

One-bedroom basement apartment, close to downtown and bus route, large windows, separate entrance, laundry, fenced yard, on-street parking, available immediately, \$750 a month inclusive, Mary, 820-7511.

Basement apartment close to campus, non-smokers, no pets, available immediately, vward@uoguelph.ca.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in Paris, France, short-term rental; furnished two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes, France, weekly or monthly, 836-6745 or fmmoll@webtv.net.

Furnished two-bedroom condo in Phoenix Mill for short- or long-term rental, Jacuzzi, two baths, ensuite laundry, available Aug. 15, Carol, 823-1857, 731-1857 or Intelrent@hotmail.com.

## WANTED

Boat trailer for 18-foot boat, paddles, life jackets, water skis, Ext. 50243 or 821-7069.

Walkmans in working order for ESL training with Mexican seasonal agricultural workers, send e-mail to kpreibis@uoguelph.ca for more information.

One-bedroom apartment for Sept. 1, parking and laundry required, non-smokers, no pets, \$300 to \$550 price range including utilities, Ashley, 416-892-3284 or ashlee\_dee1035@hotmail.com.

## AVAILABLE

Emcee, event chair or guest speaker, Tim, 763-0943 or tdiatric@uoguelph.ca.

Traditional Shotokan karate lessons, Tuesday and Thursday evenings beginning June 3, 780-2057 or m.wren@exec.uoguelph.ca.

Care for your dog in my home while you travel, Cobi, 836-8086 or cdemmers@uoguelph.ca.

Classifieds is a free service available to U of G staff, faculty, students, alumni and retirees. Submit items to Linda Graham on Level 4 of the University Centre, fax to 519-824-7962 or send e-mail to lgraham@exec.uoguelph.ca. To reach U of G extension numbers, call 519-824-4120.

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# EVENTS

## ARBORETUM

The Arboretum's Sunday afternoon walks continue June 8 with "Bird Bonanza," June 15 with "What the Nose Knows" and June 22 with "Reptiles and Amphibians." The walks leave from the Nature Centre at 2 p.m. A donation of \$3 is suggested.

Botanist Allan Anderson leads a workshop on fern identification and propagation July 3 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$45. The deadline for registration and payment is June 19.

## NOTICES

Alumni Affairs and Development is looking for volunteers to help out at Alumni Weekend June 20 to 22. Volunteers are needed to help with registration, photography, greeting and seating, posting signs and a variety of other tasks. If you'd like to get involved, call Ext. 56953.

Animal-Care Services holds its 11th annual open house June 12 from noon to 3:15 p.m. The afternoon will include a barbecue lunch, guided tours, raffles and displays.

The Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE) is seeking nominations for its annual awards program to recognize excellence in the field of international education

at different levels and in a range of specialties. Seven types of awards are available for outstanding leaders, practitioners and students. Nomination deadline is June 27. Full details can be found on the CBIE Web site at [www.cbie.ca](http://www.cbie.ca). For more information, contact Nadia Morin at [Nmorin@cbie.ca](mailto:Nmorin@cbie.ca).

## LECTURE

The Guelph-Waterloo Centre for Graduate Work in Chemistry and Biochemistry presents the 2003 Pfizer Synthetic Organic Lecture June 19 at 3:30 p.m. in Thornbrough 1200. Paul Wender of Stanford University will discuss "The Chemistry-Medicine Continuum: New Therapeutic Leads, New Reactions and New Drug Delivery Systems."

## SEMINARS

The Department of Agricultural Economics and Business and the New Zealand High Commission present a seminar and panel discussion June 6 at 2 p.m. in MacLachlan 107 on "The WTO Agricultural Negotiations: The Best Outcome for Farmers." Special guest is Graham Fraser of the New Zealand Special Agricultural Trade Envoy.

Leading reproductive immunologist Joan Hunt of the University of Kansas Medical Centre, who is to

receive an honorary degree from Guelph June 12, will give a seminar June 11 at 12:30 p.m. in OVC 1713. Her topic is "Pathways of Maternal-Fetal Communication." Anyone wishing to meet Hunt during her visit should contact Prof. Anne Croy by June 6 at Ext. 54915 or [acroy@uoguelph.ca](mailto:acroy@uoguelph.ca).

## THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of PhD candidate Stacey Reading, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences, is June 6 at 2 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 306. The thesis is "Inotropic Modification of Force Development in Mammalian Striated Muscle In Vitro." The adviser is Prof. Jack Barclay.

The final examination of Claudine Raymond, a PhD candidate in the Department of Pathobiology, is June 9. The seminar is at 9 a.m. in OVC 1715, followed by the defence in Pathobiology 101. The thesis is "Role of Cytokines in Regulation of Porcine Immune Response." The adviser is Prof. Bruce Wilkie.

The final examination of PhD candidate Mireille Mai Truong, Philosophy, is June 12 at 2 p.m. in MacKinnon 261. The thesis is "The Epistemology of Antoine Arnauld (1612-1694)." The adviser is Prof. Peter Loptson.

The final examination of Stephanie Kulack, a PhD candidate in the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, is June 25 at 10 a.m. in Hafa 243. The thesis is "Exploring Solidarity Beyond the Nuclear Family." The adviser is Prof. Joan Norris.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

University Village Public School is hosting a farewell celebration June 22 to commemorate its 32 years in Guelph. Former students, parents and staff and community members are invited to join in the festivities, which begin at noon with a barbecue lunch. The afternoon will also feature outdoor games and activities, live performers and displays depicting the history of the school. A formal presentation begins at 2 p.m. For more information or to RSVP, call 821-3580.

The Guelph Creative Arts Association presents its 43rd annual Painting on the Green, a show and sale of original art and crafts, June 21 and 22 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Delhi Street Recreation Centre. The show runs rain or shine.

The Tri-Pride Community Association presents "Tribes" 2003 June 9 to 15. The festival features headline artists such as Carole Pope and Heather McLean, an art exhibition,

bonfire, financial seminar, Guelph picnic, dances and an AIDS quilt ceremony and display. For details, visit the Web site [www.rainbow.on.ca/2003events.htm](http://www.rainbow.on.ca/2003events.htm).

The third annual Big Sisters of Guelph garage sale is June 7 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Matthias Church on Kortright Road (rain location is the church basement).

Self-employed women in the Guelph area are invited to meet June 6 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the community room at Zehrs on Imperial Road for a casual networking session. For more information, call Sue Fitzgerald at 767-1325.

Musicians from the Guelph Concert Band will showcase their talents in small ensembles and solo acts June 15 at 3 p.m. at the Guelph Youth Music Centre. Tickets will be available at the door. Proceeds from the event will be used to support the band.

The Edward Johnson Music Foundation is hosting an afternoon of card games and camaraderie June 12 at the Arboretum. The afternoon begins with lunch at 1 p.m., followed by card games from 1:30 to 4 p.m. To order tickets, call 821-7570. All proceeds will support the activities of the foundation.

## Former Squeegee Kids' Living Conditions Have Worsened Since Ban on Begging, Study Shows

*Life on the streets has become less safe for youth since implementation of the Ontario Safe Streets Act*

**T**HE LIVING CONDITIONS of former squeegee kids have been negatively affected by the Ontario Safe Streets Act (OSSA), according to new research by Prof. William O'Grady, Sociology and Anthropology.

O'Grady, who has been studying youth squeegee activities since 1996, and Guelph BA graduate Carolyn Greene surveyed 50 young people in Toronto involved with squeegee cleaning before the Jan. 31, 2000, implementation of the OSSA to determine how they've been affected by the statute prohibiting begging in public spaces.

Their study, published in the *Online Journal of Justice Studies*, revealed that prior to the OSSA, many squeegee kids were sleeping with friends, in motels or in their own apartments, but after Jan. 31, 2000, they were more likely to be sleeping in the streets, in shelters or in squats. Although the quality and safety of housing for both males and females declined after the OSSA, the living conditions for young women deteriorated the greatest. Fifty-three per cent said they often slept in the streets, compared with 27 per cent before Jan. 31, 2000.

In the wake of the government's removal of a relatively lucrative form of money-making, "the real punishment that has been imposed on these youth is further economic and social exclusion, particularly in the form of lower-quality and riskier shelter," says O'Grady.

The new statute has also resulted in ex-squeegee kids relying more heavily on government assistance, he says. "There has been an increase from 26 per cent to 34 per cent of males relying on general welfare as an income source, and an increase from 33 per cent to 53 per cent for females."

O'Grady and Greene found that youth who relied on squeegee activities for money have seen an increase in negative encounters with police. Twenty-five per cent of the males in their study said they had been jailed at least once because they'd been squeegee cleaning. The researchers also found that many of the young people they spoke with turned to panhandling or begging and some to drug dealing after the OSSA.

Rather than stopping squeegee activities altogether, the new statute has pushed a number of youth to squeegee cleaning in areas of the city

where there are fewer storefronts and less pedestrian traffic, such as Lakeshore Boulevard and Bay Street, the study found.

"Although there is no reliable empirical evidence to support the claim that OSSA has made the streets of Toronto safer for the general public, the results of this study show that

life on the streets for many homeless youth has become less safe today than it was prior to Jan. 31, 2000," says O'Grady.

He adds that a possible solution to controlling squeegee activities while keeping youth safe would be to implement indirect regulation of squeegee activities, as Winnipeg's

social planning council has proposed.

"They suggested that squeegeeing be indirectly regulated by limiting it to certain areas with licences," says O'Grady. "This recommendation sounds relatively reasonable."

BY RACHELLE COOPER

## A Vacuum With a Mission

*This student-created automated vacuum is spot-on with cleaning*

**V**ACUUMING COULD BE as simple as pushing a button and walking away, thanks to a group of University of Guelph engineering students who have created an automated vacuum prototype that improves on similar models currently available.

Saroop Bharwani, Milton Hin, Kwong Lai, Amitkumar Patel and Andrea Ranalli, working with adviser Prof. John Zelek, have created what they call the Lazy Vac. It's an automated vacuum that uses sensors to determine a room's dimensions, then remembers where it's cleaned

and where it has yet to go, a trait called position tracking.

"Position tracking allows us to clean a room more systematically, which avoids repetition or sticking only to one spot," says Hin.

Adds Bharwani: "Our vacuum is different from that of competitors because it won't clean excessively and needlessly."

The pump, brushes and suction allow the Lazy Vac to clean a six-by-six-metre room in about 20 minutes. Its 16 sensors, which detect objects from 10 centimetres to three metres in distance, keep track of where it's

been and tell it to shut off when it's finished.

The group members will consider marketing their vacuum once the prototype is completed. Currently, the robot is 80- to 90-per cent effective at cleaning a room. With further development, particularly sensor refinement, this could be greatly improved, the students say.

Funding for the Lazy Vac was provided by the U of G Engineering Society and the School of Engineering.

BY KIM WAALDERBOS  
SPARK PROGRAM

## Rozanski Tribute an Emotional Event

*Newly named classroom hall, 'the heart of teaching and learning for students,' will be president's legacy*

FOR THE SECOND TIME in his Guelph career, president Mordechai Rozanski was overcome with emotion when it was announced at his June 5 farewell party that the University's new classroom complex will be named Rozanski Hall. Approved unanimously by Board of Governors, the honour recognizes the president's leadership and his contributions to the University over the past 10 years.

Rozanski's first emotional moment came at his installation June 1, 1993, when he paid tribute to his parents — Holocaust survivors who brought him to Canada at age six so he could enjoy the benefits of freedom and education. He said in 1993 that being named president of the University of Guelph fulfilled a dream for him and his parents and gave him the opportunity to give back to the country that "had made my family's every tomorrow better than our yesterdays."

The president connected those two moments at the farewell tribute when he thanked the University and B of G for what he called "a tremendous honour."

"This is not just my name you read here," he said after unveiling the classroom facility's new nameplate. "Rozanski Hall is a wonderful surprise and an honour for my whole



President Mordechai Rozanski, his wife, Bonnie, and their son, Daniel, pose proudly with the nameplate that now graces the front of the new classroom complex as a perpetual tribute to the president and his family.

PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

family. Thank you."

Provost and incoming president Alastair Summerlee said it's fitting that the classroom complex be named for Rozanski.

"He has overseen the design of every corner, every brick and every

stone in the building. But more important, he is a passionate advocate of the power and importance of education. A classroom complex that will be the heart of teaching and learning for students on this campus should carry his name."

In another tribute, B of G chair Michael Walsh said one of Rozanski's key priorities as president has been "to make it possible for any student of merit to attend the University of Guelph." His comment was a prelude to the announcement

of two doctoral scholarships worth up to \$45,000 each that will be awarded in the name of Bonnie and Mordechai Rozanski "in recognition of their contributions and dedication to U of G."

The scholarships were established by Walsh, former B of G chairs Simon Cooper, Bill Brock and Doug Dodds, and chancellor Lincoln Alexander.

"These scholarships will remain a symbol of Mor's dedication to students and higher education, and to the many contributions he and Bonnie have made to this University and to the city of Guelph," Walsh said.

Pending Senate approval, the first scholarship will be awarded in the next academic year, funded by the five donors and matching funds from the Ontario Graduate Scholarships and Ontario Graduate Scholarships in Science and Technology programs. Open to PhD students in any U of G program, the Bonnie and Mordechai Rozanski Doctoral Scholarship will provide \$15,000 a year for up to three years.

Rozanski said he was "overwhelmed and humbled by these overly generous tributes. These have been the best 10 years of my academic career."

He added that "any successes that

See ROZANSKI on page 14

## Summerlee Named 3M Fellow

*Biomedical scientist's infectious passion for teaching and learning lauded*

AS AN UNDERGRADUATE, Joanne Hewson attended Prof. Alastair Summerlee's class on neuroanatomy for one reason: she wanted to.

The doctoral student explains why in a letter she wrote in support of Summerlee's nomination for a prestigious 3M Teaching Fellowship. She writes of teaching methods so innovative and effective that 10 years later, she still remembers the material clearly. His energy and enthusiasm "captured the attention of every student in the class. I didn't attend his class because I had to but because I wanted to."

Her letter was just one of many that 3M Canada and the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education received on behalf of Summerlee, who is provost and vice-president (academic), incoming president and a faculty member in the Department of Biomedical



3M Fellow Alastair Summerlee  
PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Sciences. They came from across Canada and the world, from places like the Swedish University of Agricultural Science, the University of Saskatchewan, the University of Bristol and the Toronto Zoo, some written by students Summerlee taught decades ago and some by students in the last few years.

The letters call him a pioneer in

curriculum development and a tireless advocate for university education. They also mention an unrivalled and infectious passion for teaching and learning.

Summerlee's efforts in the classroom are legendary. There are stories of "loud, raucous and enthusiastic" seminars, of his ability to write on a blackboard with both hands at the same time, and of a man so committed to his students that he was spotted furiously grading exams in his car minutes before interviewing for a senior administrative position.

All the letters contributed to Summerlee being awarded a 3M Teaching Fellowship June 12 for outstanding leadership in teaching, education and academic program development. He is the only U of G faculty member to receive the honour while serving as an administrator.

See 3M FELLOW on page 14

## Business Leader Supports Chair in Families and Work

*Family relations professor named chair holder*

AN ENDOWED academic chair dealing with work and family issues has been established at U of G through a leadership gift to the University's campaign from the Jarislowsky Foundation, which is headed by Stephen Jarislowsky, chair of the investment counsel firm Jarislowsky Fraser Limited.

The Jarislowsky Chair in Families and Work will be held by Prof. Donna Lero, co-founder of the University's Centre for Families, Work and Well-Being and a longtime faculty member in the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition.

It's the first such academic chair in Canada addressing the healthy integration of work and family respon-

sibilities as critical economic and social policy issues.

"The establishment of this academic position at Guelph provides a unique opportunity to capitalize on innovative research, policy analysis, teaching expertise and collaborative activities in an area of profound significance for all Canadians," says president Mordechai Rozanski.

"It is equally significant that the endowment is being created by one of Canada's most respected business leaders, who has spent a lifetime counselling business clients on financial strategies that promote corporate health and well-being. There is growing recognition of the importance of individual and family well-

See CHAIR on page 14



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# BOARD OF GOVERNORS

## Rozanski Thanks Governors for Decade-Long Partnership

**"T**HESE HAVE BEEN the best 10 years of my professional life," president Mordechai Rozanski told Board of Governors during its June 5 meeting, his last with the University's governing body.

Rozanski thanked governors for the opportunity to partner with them and the University community to provide U of G students with the highest-quality education and to foster the creation and transfer of knowl-

edge. He said the ultimate purpose of these goals is to improve the quality of people's lives. He added that his successor, provost Alastair Summerlee, will take U of G to even higher levels of success.

Board of Governors chair Michael Walsh, speaking for all board members, congratulated and thanked Rozanski for his many achievements during his 10 years as president.

During his final report to B of G, the president reported that the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) recently made a joint announcement with the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) confirming that plans are in place to accommodate the double cohort. Early indications are that Guelph will be able to maintain the quality of its incoming student population, he said.

Rozanski added that Summerlee will serve on an MTCU/COU working group that will develop the operational details and indicators of institutional quality that will be used for administering the province's Quality Assurance Fund. The \$75-million fund will increase to \$200 million by 2006/07 and will address areas such as student/faculty ratios and resources for libraries, classrooms and laboratories.

libraries, classrooms and laboratories.

The president briefed governors on the progress of construction on the science complex, classroom complex (since named Rozanski Hall) and University of Guelph-Humber building. He reported that all projects are on time and on budget. He also noted that, through a recently concluded partnership agreement between the University administration and the Central Student Association, plans are moving forward to renovate the Bullring into a student-run coffee shop (see story on page 3).

Reporting on the capital campaign, Rozanski said it has exceeded its private-giving goal of \$75 million, with more than \$77 million raised so far and seven months remaining in the campaign.

The board also heard an update

on OVC's redevelopment planning initiative. Governor Douglas Derry said the Physical Resources and Property Committee is recommending an allocation of \$1.54 million to ensure that the application for \$27 million from the Canada Foundation for Innovation and a \$37-million federal infrastructure grant are dedicated to animal health lab redevelopment, research infrastructure and special upgrades at OVC, and that a required environmental assessment is included. The recommendation was approved.

B of G recognized two newly elected student members, Andria Jones and Luke Weiler, as well as retiring board members Tony Arrell, Lynda Bowles, Warren Jestin, Prof. Jill McCutcheon, Ken Morrison, Josh Silvertown and Zdravko Gunjevic.

## SENATE REPORT

### Rozanski Thanks Senate, Private-Giving Campaign Goal Exceeded

**A**T HIS FINAL SENATE MEETING as president, Mordechai Rozanski congratulated provost Alastair Summerlee on winning a 3M Teaching Fellowship (see page 1 story), informed senators about the establishment of the Jarislowsky Chair in Families and Work (see page 1) and said he was pleased to announce that U of G has exceeded its campaign goal of \$75 million in private giving by more than \$2 million.

He noted, however, that with seven more months to go in the campaign, the University will continue its fundraising to achieve even greater success and support for its goals. He offered his thanks to the campaign cabinet led by David Kassie, the development team led by vice-president Rob McLaughlin and all other members of the University community for their role in helping to achieve this result.

Rozanski added that although the University has maintained a private-giving discipline throughout the campaign, it has also continued to raise funds from public sources. In many cases, these public funds were leveraged, matched or inspired by the campaign's private giving, he said. As a result, in parallel with the \$77 million in private funding raised, U of G has raised some \$235 million in public and government funding over the same period, bringing the combined total to date to more than \$300 million in non-operating funding.

Reflecting on the coming completion of his presidential term, Rozanski said he felt a tremendous sense of pride in what Senate members have achieved together over the past 10 years. He lauded senators for their passion for education and their affection for Guelph, and thanked them for working together

on a shared vision to advance the success of U of G students, to create and transfer knowledge and to improve the quality of life for people around the world. He also thanked current and past senators for their support, ideas and wise counsel and said that by providing that same level of support to Summerlee, his successor, they could take Guelph to even higher levels of success.

"This has been the proudest and best 10 years of my academic career — I will treasure them," he said. "I am grateful to have served this great university."

In turn, Summerlee and student senator David Hartell lauded Rozanski for his passionate support of U of G, students and post-secondary education and offered thanks on behalf of Senate.

### APPLICANT QUALITY HIGH

Prof. Maureen Mancuso, associ-

ate vice-president (academic), provided a brief preliminary report on student admission acceptances, which closed June 16. She said the applicant pool is of the highest quality seen to date at Guelph and expressed confidence that U of G has fulfilled its enrolment commitment to the province.

### NAME CHANGE APPROVED

Senators approved a motion to change the name of the Department of Consumer Studies to the Department of Marketing and Consumer Studies to better reflect the nature of its programs.

### COU COLLEAGUE NAMED

Prof. Alan Shepard, director of the School of Theatre Studies and English, was named the University's academic colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities. He succeeds Mancuso.

GUELPH

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**UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH**

**FEEDBACK SOUGHT ON ACCESSIBILITY PLAN**

The Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee, which is developing U of G's annual plan to address accessibility for persons with disabilities (in compliance with the Ontarians with Disabilities Act of 2001), is looking for feedback from the University community. To participate, visit the Web site [www.tss.uoguelph.ca/access/survey.html](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca/access/survey.html) and respond to the questions. All information is confidential and anonymous. Responses are requested by July 2.

**SECOND TERM FOR RIDGETOWN DIRECTOR**

Gary Ablett, director of Ridgetown College, has been reappointed for a second five-year term. An expert in soybean genetics and breeding who completed his master's and PhD degrees at U of G, he was first appointed director in 1997 when Ridgetown became part of the University under the enhanced partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

**CCAE AWARDS PRESENTED**

U of G captured seven awards from the Canadian Council for the Advancement of Education at its annual conference in London this week. Gold medals were awarded in the categories of best fundraising proposal (School of Hospitality and Tourism Management), best program, public affairs (Office of Research SPARK program) and best photo (*Alumnus* magazine, Communications and Public Affairs). Silver medals were presented in the categories of best Web site (Campaign for the University of Guelph) and best article on research in the natural sciences/engineering (Communications and Public Affairs). Bronze medals were awarded for best poster (Campaign for the University of Guelph) and best program, independent school (Project SOY, Office of Research).

**STUDENT RESIDENCE STAFF FUNDRAISING RECOGNIZED**

"Dressing for Dollars," an annual fall program run by residence life staff to raise money for local charities, has received the 2003 President's Contribution Award from the Alzheimer Society of Guelph-Wellington. The program involves residence life staff collecting donations in exchange for students dressing them up however they like for a day. Last fall, participants raised more than \$9,000, which was donated to the Alzheimer Society and the AIDS Committee of Guelph-Wellington.

**STUDENT LEADERS GATHER**

U of G hosted the ninth annual Student Leaders Interacting and Collaborating Conference at the OVC Learning Centre June 6 to 8. More than 70 delegates attended from Guelph, the University of Guelph-Humber, the University of Windsor and the Ontario Residence Hall Association.

# Bullring to See New Life as Student Coffee Shop

*Summer renovations planned for former livestock pavilion and pub*

**A**LL-NIGHTERS will no longer be on the menu. But students arriving on campus this fall will find the former Bullring pub open most days and evenings as a student-run coffee shop and lounge after renovations slated for this summer.

The new coffee shop to be housed in the distinctive round building — described by project manager Michael Teppo as "Guelph's only one-walled building" — will provide patrons with a new spot on campus to unwind and grab a coffee, light lunch or dinner.

Pausing while carting out the last vestiges of the Bullring's recent brief turn as a special events venue, Teppo says he expects its new incarnation will help meet demand for lounge and hospitality facilities among the higher numbers of students arriving this fall as part of the double cohort.

He says the coffee shop will probably attract many of the thousands of students a day expected to stream in and out of Guelph's new classroom complex, christened early this month as Rozanski Hall. Just metres away along a recently poured concrete walk, the glass entryway of the complex neatly reflects the Bullring's distinctive red roof and cupola and yellow-brick façade.

Renovations to the Bullring got the go-ahead after approval in April of a new lease agreement between the University and the Central Student Association (CSA). The CSA will run the coffee shop as a tenant of the University.

The new facility will operate on a cost-recovery basis, says Quentin Sinclair, chair of the CSA's finance and human resources committee. Pointing to the existing coffee shop and lounge in the University Centre,

he says: "The Daily Grind is very popular. I think students want more of that."

Following a tendering process, the building committee consisting of student and administration representatives selected a contractor in early June to carry out necessary renovations. Those renovations — which will cost an estimated \$615,000, to be shared by the CSA and the University — will see the his-

*"This will be a great coffee shop for students, run by students.*

*Students working for students is a tradition we're renowned for."*

tory and character of the building retained in its exposed brick, existing windows and the original steam radiators punctuating the wall.

The rest of the interior will be gutted, including the bar and coat check areas, as well as the existing stage and DJ booth that had kept the music pumping for some 30 years' worth of pub patrons beginning in the 1970s.

Plans call for construction of a new vestibule for the main entryway facing Rozanski Hall and a matching entryway — with wheelchair access — to open on the opposite side of the building toward Winegard Walk.

A new serving area will occupy the north side, and there will be a smaller stage on the south side for acoustic musicians. The remainder of the space will hold tables and

chairs and lounge-style sofas.

The renovation will include installation of new flooring, sandblasting and restoration of the wooden ceiling, and painting of door and window frames.

The CSA plans to hire a full-time general manager for the coffee shop, as well as a part-time serving staff of about 20 people, most likely students.

"I think this will be a great coffee shop for students, run by students," says Brenda Whiteside, associate vice-president (student affairs). "Students working for students is a tradition we're renowned for."

The shop will be open six days a week and available for Sunday rental for special functions.

The grand reopening will take place in late September.

The idea of turning the Bullring into a coffee shop came out of discussions two years ago involving the CSA and University administrators.

After declining sales forced the building's closure as a student-run pub in early 2002, Teppo, a former Guelph student and recently owner of the Boathouse on Gordon Street, was hired to prepare a business plan for the new venture.

He says the newly reconstituted Bullring will help meet the projected need on campus for student lounge space as well as reasonably priced food and fair trade coffee.

Built in 1902 as a livestock show pavilion, the Bullring was turned into a student pub during the 1970s.

"I remember fondly the all-nighters, dancing until four in the morning," says Whiteside, who completed economics degrees at U of G in the early 1980s.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

# Upgrades on Track for U of G's Combined Data, Voice and Video Service

*Integrated network will enable introduction of new technologies*

**I**T'S BEEN TWO YEARS since Computing and Communications Services (CCS) began upgrading the University's data network, and the changes are providing faster access and more reliable service, says CCS director Ron Elmslie.

The Integrated Communications Network (ICN) initiative is a three-year project to upgrade the campus network infrastructure, improve reliability and performance, and allow for new technologies such as VoIP (voice over IP) and video conferencing. The upgrades will allow the University to move from the outdated ROLM phone system to a new state-of-the-art IP phone system, and will enable all buildings to connect to the campus high-speed network by

summer 2004.

With recent deployment to MaRS Landing (Medical and Related Sciences Links to Agricultural Network for Development and Innovation with Guelph) and early migration of other departments planned for this fall, Kent Percival, project manager for the CCS initiative, says he's confident there will be a smooth changeover.

This confidence stems from the success of the installation of new IP phones in sections of student residences and CCS over the last two years.

"The switchover of the phone systems from ROLM to the new IP phones was smooth, and we haven't experienced any major problems," says Percival. "Because of this suc-

cess, we don't foresee any problems with the deployment campus-wide over the next year."

The new IP phones will be phased in as the network changes are implemented. Members of the campus community will notice changes in the voice-mail system during implementation, but the systems are compatible and can co-exist during the changeover period.

"We'll start by replacing the existing services," says Elmslie. "Because the new ICN is the base for combined data, voice and video service, more features will be planned once implementation is complete."

Details will be available on the CCS Web site in the fall. For more information, contact Debbie Supran at [dsupran@uoguelph.ca](mailto:dsupran@uoguelph.ca).

## PEOPLE

**HUMAN NUTRITION STUDENT RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD**

Sharon Wong, a human nutrition PhD candidate in the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, has been selected as the 2003 recipient of the \$1,000 DC Graduate Award sponsored by Dietitians of Canada. Award selection is based on scholarship, personal merit and the potential of the applicant to advance the profession of dietetics. Wong's graduate dissertation focuses on appetite in frail community-living seniors.

**PHYSICS TALK WINS PRIZE**

Geoff Grinyer, an M.Sc. student in the Department of Physics, won first prize for the best student presentation at the Canadian Association of Physicists Congress in Charlottetown this month. His talk described a precise measurement of "The Half-Life of <sup>176</sup>Lu," a long-lived radioactive isotope used in geochronological studies.

**ENGINEERING POSTER IS BEST AT CONFERENCE**

Samuel Bromley, a PhD candidate in the School of Engineering, was awarded first prize for best poster at the 13th Annual Canadian Conference on Intelligent Systems hosted by Precarn Incorporated and the Institute for Robotics and Intelligent Systems in Halifax this month. His presentation was titled "Automated Generation of Low-Bandwidth Scene Descriptions Using Particle-Filtering in Passive Stereo Machine Vision." His advisers are Profs. John Zelek and Bob Dony.

**ART CENTRE HONOURED**

Judith Nasby, director of the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre, recently accepted a Guelph Award of Excellence on behalf of the centre from Guelph Visitor and Convention Services. Honoured in the marketing category for best attraction, the centre was lauded for its marketing efforts, including community event involvement, advertising in different key markets and making unique use of its sculpture park for recognition purposes in the community.

**GRYPHON WRESTLER REPRESENTS CANADA**

Gryphon wrestler Tara Hedicann represented Canada in the Hans von Zons International Wrestling Tournament in Germany this month. The tournament featured top wrestlers from around the world. The Canadian team also participated in a joint training camp with the German, French and Swedish national teams before attending the Lady Austrian Open Tournament June 13. This is the first stage of Canada's national team program in preparation for the World Senior Championships in New York City in September. Additional events include the Canada Cup and National Team training camp July 10 to 19 in Guelph and the Pan American Games in early August. This will be the first time women's wrestling is on the sport program at the Pan American Games.

# TOWARD 2010



## It's Full Steam Ahead on Campus Construction

U of G's new classroom complex, named Rozanski Hall this month as a tribute to the University's longest-serving president, Mordechai Rozanski, is on schedule to open in September, ready to welcome new and returning students to campus for the fall semester, says senior project manager Angelo Gismondi. All work on the 52,000-square-foot building is slated for completion by the beginning of classes, including landscaping and the installation of state-of-the-art audiovisual equipment. The facility will accommodate 1,500 students. The photo above provides an exterior view of Rozanski Hall. At top right is the entrance to the building, with the new nameplate in place. At bottom right is a view of the 600-seat classroom. Below is an interior view of the lobby area, looking out towards the Bullring. Meanwhile, construction on Phase 1 of the new science complex is progressing well and on schedule, says Gismondi. It's expected that the five-storey concrete substructure of the 173,000-square-foot building will be in place by summer's end. Heavy-equipment aficionados will be interested to know that the crane looming over the science complex site is the largest-capacity tower crane operating in Ontario.

PHOTOS BY MARTIN SCHWALBE



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# The Life of a Natural History Broadcaster

Honorary degree recognizes a lifetime of opening television viewers' eyes to the 'wonder and splendour' of the world

**L**IFE ON EARTH appeared a few years before Kevin Kerr did. But the third-year wildlife biology student still wanted an autograph from Sir David Attenborough, producer of the landmark series of natural history documentaries that made him a household name when it aired on television in 1979.

Asked why he had approached Attenborough following a lecture and presentation held in War Memorial Hall June 12, the 21-year-old student tucked his freshly signed copy of Attenborough's *The Life of Birds* into a plastic bag against the rain and said: "Just because of his status—he's a well-renowned biologist, naturalist, filmmaker."

That worldwide influence was recognized at U of G earlier in the day when the British naturalist and longtime TV producer received an honorary degree—his latest in a string of honours and awards collected over his 77 years—during convocation ceremonies for the College of Biological Science.

He received his honorary doctorate from his nominee, Prof. Sandy Middleton, who retired from the Department of Zoology in 2001. Like several of his faculty colleagues, Middleton used Attenborough's films, particularly *Life on Earth*, to illustrate concepts in his undergraduate zoology courses.

Middleton recalled one former student who told him: "I don't remember much about your lectures, but I will never forget the Attenborough movies."

Neither, it seems, will legions of fans who have tuned in for what Middleton called "education, information and inspiration" about nature and wildlife conveyed through a string of documentary programs produced, written and narrated by Attenborough during half a century.

Beginning in 1954 with his *Zoo Quest* series, Attenborough has taken viewers around the world with his programs and books, including the trilogy of *Life on Earth*, *The Living Planet* and *The Trials of Life*. He has also produced *The Private Life of Plants*, *The Life of Birds*, *Life in the Freezer* (about Antarctica) and *The Life of Mammals*, which aired in 2002. He is now filming a new series of programs on insects.

Last year marked the 50th anniversary of his career with BBC TV, celebrated with a television special as well as publication of his memoir, *Life on Air*. Most of that career has been spent observing and capturing life on film, apart from an eight-year stint beginning in 1965 as controller and then program director, when he led the introduction of colour TV in Britain (he started in television after having been turned down for radio). In 1973, he donned his leisure suit to return to the wild, observing in a memorable line: "I haven't seen the Galapagos Islands."

Interviewed last week before the convocation ceremony, Attenborough said he was seeing Guelph for the first time. His earlier visits to Canada have taken him out west to film everything from the Burgess



Honorary degree recipient Sir David Attenborough, left, accepts congratulations from chancellor Lincoln Alexander at summer convocation last week.

PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

Shale in British Columbia's Yoho National Park to grizzlies and moose in Alberta and Yukon.

For an example of what he calls the "wonder and splendour" of life on Earth, he points to the Burgess Shale, a Cambrian rock formation renowned among naturalists for its diversity of fossil invertebrates preserved for 540 million years.

(Perhaps his use of the word "wonder" is an unconscious nod to another U of G honorary degree recipient and naturalist whose work in print rather than film also helped popularize science. Paleontologist Stephen J. Gould, who died in 2002 shortly after receiving his degree at Guelph, wrote about the Burgess Shale in his 1991 essay collection called *Wonderful Life*.)

Asked about his favourite example of nature's splendour, Attenborough confessed to having long been "besotted" with the bird of paradise. The bird, and particularly the male's elaborate courtship dance, first attracted his camera years ago. What's most compelling about the bird of paradise, he said, is what its habits and ecology tell us about evolutionary processes on the isolated and predator-free New Guinea island where it lives.

"The whole thing becomes a wonder because it's an integrated image, an integrated picture you see of the world, which all comes because you're looking at the bird of paradise. That's the great joy, that's the delight."

Attenborough's childlike joy and delight evinced on camera are what probably draw viewers to the screen as much as the content of his documentary series. Commenting on his evident enthusiasm for his subject, he said: "I can't help it. I don't suppose I'm any more excited by the wonder and splendour of the world than anybody else. I just talk that way."

He was referring to his signature on-camera style, particularly his in-

tense, often sotto voce delivery that provides the Cambridge-influenced voice-over to sometimes riveting footage in his documentaries.

Attendees at his afternoon lecture last week were treated to examples of both in a presentation that earned him a standing ovation from an audience made up mostly of area high school students. At times, the film voice-overs in snippets of his footage seemed to have been spliced seamlessly with his own remarks at the lectern as Attenborough explained such behind-the-scenes camera tricks as time-lapse videography to track the parasitic growth of dodder on stinging nettles, infra-red lighting used in capturing crocodiles and lions scrapping over a kill, and the use of a finger-sized camera to film a caterpillar gorging on grubs in an ant colony.

Greg Staines, a biology teacher at John F. Ross Collegiate, said that when he first suggested attending the lecture to his class, some students thought he was talking about actor Richard Attenborough, David's brother.

"There was not a lot of name recognition," said Staines, who called the event at U of G a "once-in-a-lifetime" chance to see an acclaimed natural history communicator. After the lecture? "The students loved it; they thought it was awesome."

Graham Nancekivell, a lecturer in the Department of Zoology, said he still uses parts of *Life on Earth* in his undergraduate mammalogy labs.

"(Attenborough) is a bit of a natural history hero to me. He still has an insatiable curiosity about the natural world, but more than that, he manages to surround himself with outstanding technical people who somehow brilliantly capture and convey his sense of curiosity to his audience."

Nancekivell said Attenborough's lecture "explained how some of the technical whiz-bang is applied, but

really, the success of his films is predicated on his childlike enthusiasm for natural phenomena."

Stylistic considerations aside, Attenborough said he believes much of the enduring appeal of his work stems from his building-block "serious" approach to filming the natural world. That approach has much in common with the sensibility of a biologist at a university like Guelph, he said.

He allows that that view hasn't always resonated with network producers looking for what he calls "killers and sex" footage.

"I put out the idea that what we wanted to do was the history of life on this planet and that we would do it in a relatively serious way. That meant you would start at the beginning. If you start at the beginning of life, you have to start with algae and bacteria and viruses, which were the first life."

"It's said that someone in the BBC took this to some network executive in the United States. He looked through the description and said: 'You're trying to do a 13-part series, and the first program is all about green slime!'"

Never mind the networks. That approach has at least endeared the naturalist to many academics. Referring to his former in-class use of the films, Middleton said: "At times, you get a guffaw when Attenborough appears in his bell bottoms, but the science and biology are every bit as good as they were. I think what's important and has always struck me is the integrity of his work, the fact that there's nothing hokey there. If you look at many of the other natural history series such as Walt Disney, for example, a lot of that is contrived. David Attenborough's work has always been the real thing, and I think that's been the real key to his success."

There's serious, but there's also fun. "It's fun communicating things of interest or importance to other

people," said Attenborough, who calls himself a journalist despite having studied zoology and geology at Leicester and Cambridge universities.

During the interview before convocation, he marvelled at the advances made in film technology during his own career. "When I started, filming natural history was extraordinarily difficult. There was a clockwork camera with no decent lenses, no way of synchronizing sound, film that was so insensitive that it was actually impossible to film in the forest because there wasn't enough light. Now we have a really fascinating battery of technical gear."

He views another change as no less fascinating but far more foreboding. The single greatest threat to many of the plants and animals captured in those miles and miles of footage is an ever-increasing human population and attendant population density that has transformed the landscape around his London home as much as in other parts of continental Europe.

"The huge increase in the ease of travel and the vast increase in the population have clearly exacerbated the problem of preserving biodiversity," he said, allowing that smooth transportation links have paradoxically made it easier for him to jet to various destinations to film some of the fallout of that environmental encroachment.

Still, he has no plans to turn off the camera anytime soon. "If you believe the welfare of the natural world is significant, then knowledge of the natural world is a prerequisite."

Attenborough said his work has brought the natural world to city mice who might not otherwise appreciate life beyond suburbia—and who might not appreciate the reason for, say, tax hikes deemed necessary to help clean up the countryside or to preserve a hedgerow for nesting songbirds.

"If I talk to an audience in Britain, I can be pretty sure that 95 per cent of them have not seen a wild living creature, other than maybe a pigeon, for days. It's extraordinary."

That sentiment resonated with Middleton, an ornithologist who saw that change reflected in students he taught during his 35-year career at Guelph. Recalling his own childhood spent fishing and mountain climbing with his father in his native Scotland, he said students who formerly grew up with fishing rods close to hand might now get only glimpses of nature.

"They're attracted simply by what they see on public media," said Middleton, who introduced Attenborough's footage to the classroom partly to convey "some of the colour and wonder of life."

Said student Kerr, who is working this summer as an interpretive naturalist at the U of G Arboretum: "He's brought animal behaviour that we would never have expected to see before into our homes."

BY ANDREW VOWLES

# A NEW DIRECTION IN HEALTH CARE

*Preventive model for health care using functional foods, nutraceuticals desperately needed in Canada*

BY BRUCE HOLUB

**L**IFESTYLE-RELATED CHRONIC DISORDERS such as premature cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, many cancers and aging-related psychiatric disorders are major components of our present and mounting health-care costs. By age 55, a majority of Canadians will have developed various types of clinical or preclinical cardiovascular disease. Heart disease and stroke continue to represent the leading cause of premature death in Canada, followed by cancer. About 40 per cent of Canadians will develop some form of cancer in their lifetime, with two-thirds of them dying from it. The prevalence of diabetes in our younger population and Aboriginal Peoples is rising dramatically.

Total health expenditures in Canada have continued to increase and now surpass \$100 billion annually. Expenditures for pharmaceutical drugs (well over \$10 billion a year) are second only to hospital costs and surpass all other categories, including physician expenses.

The proportion of disease onset attributable to diet has been estimated at 40 to 50 per cent for cardiovascular disorders and diabetes and 35 to 50 per cent for all cancers. About 20 per cent of osteoporosis is diet-related, as are numerous other chronic conditions. Despite dietary guidelines and recommendations from Health Canada and other professional groups, consumers still generally adhere to the typical western diet for various reasons, including taste, convenience and busy lifestyles. Dietary/nutritional components are critical factors in chronic disease incidence, progression, morbidity and mortality.

The current medical model that predominates in Canada's health-care system focuses on latent disease and risk factor management using costly medical/pharmaceutical strategies and liberal cutoff points for risk factor management (e.g., blood cholesterol levels, triglyceride levels and blood pressure). Many candidates for such interventions are often already in a state of chronic disease when therapy is initiated.

The Canadian health-care system needs to accelerate the introduction of an aggressive "preventive model" based on the very early introduction of risk factor-modifying functional foods plus nutraceuticals, using cutoff points that are much more conservative than previously used. The attenuation of such risk factors can then be readily implemented for young Canadians before they enter the predicted pathway towards chronic disease.

Despite concrete, evidence-based published studies lingering in the medical literature for two decades, it was only a couple of weeks ago that the U.S. National Institutes of Health finally recognized and officially stated that previously recognized "safe" blood pressure cutoffs of 139/89 were not acceptable. As of June 2003, people 18 and over with blood pressures ranging from 120/80 to 139/89 are now classified as having prehypertension, a high-risk precursor to hypertension, and being at increased risk for cardiovascular-related disorders. By analogy, the published medical literature clearly predicts that future directives will need to officially define and implement the prehypercholesterolemic and pretriglyceridemic cutoffs if a preventive model as advocated herein is to be effective in Canada. The many Canadians who are now in prehypercholesterolemic, pretriglyceridemic and prehypertensive states should not be left with the impression by our current health-care system that their levels are safe, ideal or desirable.

The scientific literature is overflowing with evidence-based information from numerous human/clinical trials to show the dramatic potential of functional foods containing natural nutraceutical ingredients to play a major role in both the early and latent modification of risk factors for chronic disease, and to provide opportunities for the prevention, delay of onset and management of various chronic disorders. Essentially none of this peer-reviewed literature, however, is being directly applied (through health claims, marketplace availability and education on such products to medical and health professionals) for the Canadian public.

Nutraceuticals and functional foods can be generally defined as follows:

- \* A nutraceutical is a product isolated or concentrated from natural food sources. It may also be a known nutrient in purified form that is generally sold in nutritional supplement



forms not usually associated with food or is incorporated into functional foods.

- \* A functional food is similar in appearance to or may be a conventional food, is consumed as part of a usual diet and is demonstrated to have physiological benefits and/or reduce the risk of chronic disease beyond conventional nutritional functions.

Health Canada's definitions of nutraceuticals and functional foods focus on demonstrating of a physiological benefit or providing protection against chronic disease in healthy individuals. This fails to appreciate and allow for the important roles they can also play in retarding disease progression, enhancing disease management and offering effective risk factor modification in those with existing disease (as most Canadians have by their 50s). For example, fish oil as a nutraceutical has been found to lower subsequent sudden cardiac death by 45 per cent in patients following their heart attacks when given as an addition to standard medical therapy.

Ideally, one would like Canadians with or at risk for cardiovascular disease to eat a Mediterranean-type diet that includes several servings of fruits and vegetables daily, a few servings of fish per week, etc. But busy lives, taste preferences and other factors mitigate against this lifestyle change for most. The cardio-protective nutritional components in fruits and vegetables can be delivered intact and naturally by simple freeze-drying procedures in which water is removed and the resulting nutraceutical mixtures inserted into foods such as whole-grain breads, cereals and nutritional beverages that are both tasty and affordable. The heart-healthy omega-3 fatty acids in fish can be consumed in equally available forms as high-quality fish oil (nutraceutical or supplement form devoid of mercury and other contaminants) or as a ready-to-use scrambled egg mix containing fish oil (functional food).

Functional foods contain nutraceutical ingredients with a long history of being consumed as dietary components in different sectors of the world for decades or generations. Intake levels of such ingredients are often higher than those consumed in a typical Canadian diet, yet are within the range considered appropriate for general safety. In contrast to pharmaceutical agents, which represent novel and foreign chemicals to the human body when consumed, people have been exposed to nutraceuticals as dietary components for extended time periods in various sectors without any significant evidence of notable untoward effects that may cause significant health risks.

(Genetically engineered organisms/foods are excluded from this discussion because of public concerns and differing scientific opinions. In addition, non-food-derived herbal products are not included because most of these have no history of being consumed in the diet as normal dietary components.)

Numerous examples of functional foods plus nutraceuticals

are available to demonstrate the dramatic reduction in health-care costs that can result from their use in early risk factor modification as well as the complementary and/or alternative management of chronic conditions if added to our current medical model for health-care/disease management.

For example, Canadian-derived fish oil enriched with omega-3 fatty acids can be used in the early attenuation of moderately elevated blood triglyceride levels in young people. For a few pennies a day, without dramatic dietary changes, the steadily progressive triglyceride increases over the next few decades of life can be dramatically reduced, along with the high occurrence of premature heart disease in the late 40s. In addition to playing a low-cost role in disease prevention as part of the preventive model, omega-3 fatty acids from fish oil have been shown to lower circulating triglyceride levels in cardiovascular and diabetic patients with an efficacy paralleling that of imported/patented/synthetic pharmaceutical agents, at a fraction of the cost.

It can be readily estimated that the overall minimum savings in direct health-care costs from introducing efficacious functional foods into the public marketplace with associated health claims for the prevention of chronic diseases (by aggressive and early risk factor management) amount to \$20 billion yearly, plus at least another \$10-billion savings when such are applied to disease management applications (evidence-based alternative and/or complementary). In addition, export market opportunities for Canadian agri-food sectors in the functional food plus nutraceutical area would be enormous.

Education of health professionals and the public is needed. For example, studies published in medical journals have found that the antioxidant nutrient selenium, when supplemented as a nutraceutical at safe levels, reduces prostate and colorectal cancer incidence by 60 per cent. Generally, evidence-based nutraceutical efficacy (by dose and duration) is not in the educational curriculum of physicians or many other health professionals. Further, many non-profit health agencies and foundations give dietary advice without including nutraceuticals and functional foods.

In terms of educational programs, U of G has been a national leader since the mid-1990s. I wish to acknowledge the leadership of Prof. Bill Bettger, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences, and colleagues on campus, whose efforts led to Guelph being the first to offer a B.Sc. major and minor in nutritional and nutraceutical sciences. In 1999, the University established the Human Nutraceutical Research Unit on campus to do evidence-based product testing in controlled human/clinical trials and provide graduate student training.

Our eager, well-educated and often underemployed life science graduates could play a key role in this preventive model for health care using functional foods and nutraceuticals. Inexpensive, rapid and accurate finger-prick screening for blood cholesterol, triglycerides, glucose, etc., is technically available now if allowed on site anywhere (grocery stores, homes, waiting rooms, etc.). It is entirely possible, for example, to normalize the resulting prehypercholesterolemic and pretriglyceridemic values to ideal levels via such preventive health specialists in healthy individuals within a few weeks using evidence-based effective and safe nutraceuticals plus functional foods. Why are these exciting opportunities not made available to Canadians who may wish to receive them and improve their personal health care?

The public, health specialists/professionals, food industry, academic and government scientists and other sectors have indicated enthusiastic interest and support for the early and broad-based entry of functional foods with appropriate health claims into the Canadian marketplace. They are ready, willing and waiting. Functional foods need to become the "pharmacy" for disease prevention as well as management to extend and complement our current health-care system, with the added benefit of dramatic reductions in costs. Government leadership in launching evidence-based functional foods with natural nutraceutical components into our health-care system is desperately needed in Canada.

Prof. Bruce Holub is a faculty member in the Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences.

## FOR THE LOVE OF ANIMALS

*Close encounter with a calf at age five steers vet to a career dedicated to animal welfare*

BY LORI BONA HUNT

**D**ENNA BENN FOUND HER LIFE'S CALLING when she was five years old — or rather, her life's calling found her. She was visiting her grandparents on their farm outside Toronto and playing alone outdoors when a lost calf wandered into the yard. With no grown-ups around to tell her to stay away, Benn approached the equally curious animal.

Child and calf were about the same height. They locked eyes and neither moved for what seemed like a long, long time. "I just kept staring into those big brown eyes — I was fascinated," she says. "Then my grandfather came out and said the calf would have to be returned to its owner. I cried and cried."

Right then, Benn decided what to do with her life. She would become a veterinarian and spend her days helping lost and unwanted animals. Of course, at age five, she had no idea that few women were going to veterinary school in the 1950s, especially those raised in the big city. She couldn't foresee the obstacles that lay ahead for a young married student with a child, nor did she understand that caring for animals requires more than treating illnesses or helping them find their way home. And she never could have imagined she would one day hold the challenging, highly visible and sometimes controversial position of director of Animal-Care Services at U of G.

Thank goodness for the blissful ignorance of youth.

"I just wanted to be a vet so desperately, I didn't think about what it would take. I just wanted to do it."

In fact, Benn was so eager to "get on with it" that she left high school during the spring of her final year to take early admission at the Ontario Agricultural College. "I thought coming early would give me a head start on the rest of my life."

Because this is real life, the story of how Benn went from being a tenacious Aggie to directing a facility that serves hundreds of U of G faculty, staff, students and volunteers is not fairy-tale smooth. But it's an engaging story and ripe for the telling, given that she recently received a Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal for her dedication to animal welfare.

Benn had no idea she'd even been nominated for the award until she was attending a banquet at a meeting of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. "Out of the blue, there was a presentation and I received this award. I was absolutely shocked."

It isn't the first honour she's received for championing animal welfare (in fact, six such awards hang on the walls in her office, and under her direction, U of G received the Award of Excellence from the Canadian Council on Animal Care for exemplary standards). But it may be the most meaningful. The nomination came from the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies, an organization one might assume would be the last to align itself with a facility that uses animals in teaching and research.

"The fact that this group recognized my contributions to animals and science is very humbling," she says. "It was a wonderful moment."

It was also a moment she might have missed, had it not been for an outspoken university adviser. By her third year at Guelph, Benn had all but written off becoming a veterinarian. She had married young and had had a child the previous summer.

"I wouldn't go anywhere near the vet school while I was pregnant, not even to the OVC library. I was terrified of anyone seeing me. I didn't want people thinking I couldn't do veterinary medicine with a baby."

But after her daughter, Tricia, was born, Benn started to wonder if her greatest fear had been a prophecy. Juggling married life, school and an infant was an incredible challenge.

"I thought there was no way I could handle vet school, so I decided to go into animal nutrition instead, consoling myself that I would still be working with animals."

But when Benn revealed her new career choice to a third-year adviser, he told her animal nutrition "was no place for a



woman. His words were the kick I needed to do what I wanted to do in the first place." She left the adviser's office and immediately went to OVC to fill out an application. To her surprise and joy, she was granted an interview with a committee that included Prof. Carlton Gyles, Pathobiology. "He let me in — I hope he doesn't regret it," she says with a laugh.

More than 30 years later, Gyles still recalls the interview. "You meet a lot of students, and many of them you don't remember, but some you do. And I remember Denna. I remember her well. She was very bright and had a memorable personality, and it was evident she was interested in both people and animals."

Gyles says some people go into veterinary medicine believing all it requires is a love of animals. "They think they can escape dealing with people. Of course, this is not the case. That's why Denna is a good fit — she can do both sides of her job, the animals and the people. It's a difficult position . . . and she always makes animal care front and centre."

Benn was one of 34 women admitted to OVC in 1972. She soared through the next four years, often bringing her daughter to school and sitting with her at the back of the class (Tricia ended up doing undergraduate and master's degrees at Guelph).

After graduation, Benn accepted an internship at a small-animal hospital, which turned out to be her introduction to animal neglect and societal nonchalance.

"People would come into the clinic and want their cat put down because it was the wrong colour or it scratched the furniture. Or they suddenly developed allergies to the dog and didn't want to find it another home."

After completing her internship, Benn began working on her master's degree, taught part time at Seneca College and "had my second child in the middle of all that." In 1980, she signed on as part-time staff veterinarian at U of G's animal facility. A third child was born in 1982, and she finished her master's degree in 1983. She was appointed director in 1987.

It was at Animal-Care Services that Benn found her niche, which may seem contrary to her earlier ambitions. Many of the facility's animals — mostly rodents, dogs and rabbits these days — are unwanted or abandoned pets, but for most of them, it's their last home.

"At first, I was worried about losing my integrity, what I stood for." But those fears subsided as she realized animal care takes on many forms. "My job is to make sure the animals have as positive an experience as possible while they're here. This involves taking good care of the animals, but it also means taking good care of the people who take care of the animals, because that carries back."

Benn is emphatic that the animals are treated with care and dignity, which has required a lot of changes over the years. U of G has had an Animal-Care Committee since before 1960 — long before such groups were required by law — that oversees the use of animals in teaching and research. But when Benn first started, there were few guidelines or protocols for animal use, and researchers didn't face the mounds of paperwork that are standard today.

"It was a different time. It wasn't that people meant to be cruel; it's just that they were accustomed to a particular system. They were used to seeing what they saw every day."

What they saw were cats in small, cramped cages and dogs confined to cages or pens without exercise. There was no adoption program, so animals would mysteriously "disappear out the back," and most staff members tried to remain detached from their charges.

"These are very social animals, and for them, neutral interaction is as devastating as being hit," says Benn.

She decided to confront what she saw as the core of the problem — dealing with death.

"People were afraid to bond with the animals. I knew that if I wanted them to become emotionally attached, I needed to provide them with the emotional support they would need when the animal was adopted or put down."

She initiated a symposium on coping with death, which, for the past 12 years, has involved Prof. Cindy Adams, Population Medicine. "It's not a new issue by any means," says Adams, who specializes in grief and pet death and the human-animal bond. "We just unveiled the reality."

Over the years, the two, along with Mary Martini, manager of the Central Animal Facility, have presented similar seminars across Ontario and Canada. Adams also meets with Benn's staff whenever there's a particularly emotional incident at the facility.

"I give Denna a lot of credit for identifying and opening up this can of worms," Adams says, adding that she considers Benn a "Jiminy Cricket," an ever-present conscience and reminder of the way things should be done. "She raises the bar in her concerns around the care and respect for the creatures we work with, and that is the binding force that brings us together."

Benn's other initiatives have included creating a large glassed-in "cat room," launching volunteer and paid dog-walking programs and organizing formal pet adoption procedures.

She also opened the doors — to everyone. She and her staff conduct tours at least weekly for agencies, journalists and anyone else interested in what goes on inside Animal-Care Services. It's a practice she admits not everyone commends.

"But it's always been my philosophy that we should invite people in, let them see what we're doing and that we don't have anything to hide."

No matter how challenging her work may be at times, Benn never loses sight of what brought her here in the first place. "Every time I seem to be getting too caught up in everything else that goes with this job, someone will take me out to look at the animals and I remember why I'm here. My love for animals remains unchanged."

# Rozanski Decade E

**F**ROM NOW ON, we'll call it the Rozanski decade. The period of time when U of G rose to the top spot in the annual *Maclean's* ranking, when we signed a new contract with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF), balanced the budget and grew our endowment and raised more than \$75 million.

That's just a start on the list of significant events that have marked the last 10 years in the history of the University of Guelph and the career of president Mordechai Rozanski.

He will say goodbye to alumni this weekend and will leave the University July 13 to enjoy a brief holiday before taking up the reins at Rider University in Lawrenceville, N.J., Aug. 1.

The University community and friends from Guelph and the surrounding area bid farewell to the president at an emotional tribute event June 5 (see story on page 1). With every such goodbye, there is the urge to look back at our first meeting, when Rozanski came to Guelph from a 25-year academic career in the United States. It was a homecoming for Guelph's sixth president, a Polish immigrant who was raised and educated in Montreal. It was a new adventure for his American wife, Bonnie, and their son, Daniel.

Just for fun, @Guelph asked the Rozanskis to re-enact the family portrait published in the newspaper Dec. 15, 1993. Some changes are easy to see. Just 11 years old in the 1993 photo, Daniel has grown into an enterprising young man, and the president has shaved his moustache. Bonnie's gracious smile is now familiar to many U of G guests who have visited the President's House during the last 10 years.

What we can't see are the Guelph memories and experiences they take with them. Ten years ago, Daniel explored the campus on his bicycle and made friends with University staff, especially those driving tractors and other equipment. He's now engaged

to his high school sweetheart, Melanie Luckhart, and is starting his own excavating business in Guelph.

Bonnie first experienced U of G as a resident of the campus and the president's partner at official functions.

"I met loads of brilliant people. I went to teas and book clubs and concerts. My son and I toured the University many times, gazing in wonderment at fossilized fish, experimental plants, horses on treadmills. I was privileged to tour a research facility housing pigs so clean that we humans had to shower before and after the visit. We saw raptors, chickens, cows. My son sat on combines and plowed fields. I joined the Guelph Spring Festival board and helped out at its Street Fest and garage sale. We went to lectures by famous people and had lunch with the likes of Jane Urquhart, Elie Wiesel, Stephen Gould and the president of Finland."

But her lasting connection to Guelph, she says, will be as an alumna — an M.Sc. graduate in computing science. “I got to learn about artificial intelligence. I also got to work with the bright and creative students in that program, and later, in a playwriting course taught by Judith Thompson, with a totally different scintillating subset of arts students.”

The president's memories include a note complimenting his red pajamas and a New Year's knock on the door by an international student who wanted to borrow toilet paper to restock the residence bathroom. He has been serenaded by students returning to campus after a night out in downtown Guelph, and by a Marilyn Monroe imitator who performed at a birthday party hosted by staff in his office.

Rozanski remembers the fun of surprising everybody by jumping in fully clothed at the opening of the University's gold pool, kicking off the United Way campaign during a homecoming game, and cutting ribbons and celebratory cakes.

This spring, he traded his Gryphon red pajamas for a jersey to cheer on the varsity men's basketball team at the Canadian finals in Halifax.

The president and his wife have shared the President's House with students at the new-student barbecue held each September, and he has welcomed more than 30,000 new graduates to Guelph's alumni family during convocation ceremonies. Rozanski has also visited numerous alumni over the years, sought their counsel and hosted an annual awards luncheon at Alumni Weekend.

"We have many wonderful memories of the University and will always cherish the friends we made here," he says. "This is a bittersweet goodbye."

Rozanski says he's grateful for the opportunity he's had to work with "so many wonderful people — faculty, staff, students, alumni, my colleagues in administration and our dedicated board members. They've made my job easier and very rewarding. I've felt very much at home here, not just as a resident of the campus but also as the colleague of others whose goals and aspirations are entirely in keeping with my own views about what a university should be."

Those views meshed early on in Rozanski's tenure as he led the University through the completion of a strategic planning process that was highly participatory and highly successful. As an institution, Guelph reaffirmed and articulated its key objectives related to learning, research, continuing education, internationalism and collaboration.

When Rozanski came to Guelph in 1993, the University was facing two major cuts in provincial funding. During the first few years of his tenure, funding was cut by 22 per cent.

Prof. Iain Campbell, provost and vice-president (academic) from 1995 to 2000, says: "Mort wanted to take the biggest hits in



The past decade has brought many changes and achievements for the University of Guelph. In this photo, a personal level, one of the most visible indicators of time passing can be seen in the faces of the people. From left to right: Bonnie and Mordechai Rozanski's son, Daniel, from a boy to a man. On an institutional level, the life of U of G and the president over the past 10 years. Top left: At Rozanski's inauguration ceremony, Winegard, left, and Burt Matthews. Centre left: Rozanski and then Ontario Premier Bob Rae signing the agreement in 1996. Bottom left: *Macleod's* magazine ran this photo of the province's most comprehensive university in Canada in 1999; and Rozanski and Humber College President John Humber for the University of Guelph-Humber, as Prof. Michael Nightingale looks on. Bottom right: Rozanski in 1999. Sciences in 199B are, from left, dean Alun Joseph, Rozanski, then associate dean, and finally a farewell tribute, Board of Governors chair Michael Walsh announces that he will be leaving the university with chancellor Lincoln Alexander, have established a scholarship in the Rozanski name. Bottom right: Rozanski and Rob McLaughlin, VP (alumni affairs) of the University of Guelph in 2002; and the president is among the fans on hand to cheer the men's basketball team.

# Focused on Quality

the administration to minimize the impact on research and teaching. It was a good strategy."

Michael Walsh, chair of Board of Governors, says Rozanski "could visualize the strong measures that needed to be taken and worked constructively with the University community to increase the quality of our programs. We are a much stronger university because of the changes made in the 1990s. He saw those tough tasks as an opportunity to enhance the interdisciplinary nature of teaching and research at the University of Guelph."

"Quality" is the word Rozanski has used to brand the University of Guelph for the past 10 years — with its synonyms "excellence," "distinction" and "innovation." In his 1993 installation speech, he promised he would brag about U of G, and he has never tired of talking about Guelph's "remarkable students, talented faculty and staff, and dedicated alumni and volunteers."

Provost and incoming president Alastair Summerlee says no one has been a better champion of Guelph's achievements than Rozanski. "Nor more insistent that we continue to improve the quality and the accessibility of a Guelph education."

Under Rozanski's leadership, the University has also set high standards for meeting its academic and social responsibilities and reconfirmed its commitment to the agri-food sector and rural communities through a new partnership with OMAF. In a taped interview shown at Rozanski's farewell party, former U of G president Bill Winegard said: "Mort pulled off a great coup in negotiating the new agreement between the University and the ministry of agriculture. Many of us wanted to do what he did, but he was able to achieve it."

The new University of Guelph-Humber program launched in 2002 is integrating a university honours degree and an applied

college diploma. Guelph-Humber is addressing the increased demand for post-secondary education throughout Ontario, as well as providing new programs of interest to students and employers.

U of G leaders also planned for enrolment growth on the Guelph campus, while advancing the University's reputation for academic quality and taking advantage of its research strengths in the life sciences. During the last decade, enrolment has grown from 12,000 to the current 16,600, and the quality of entering students has risen to the point that *Maclean's* has ranked Guelph first among comprehensive universities in two of the last four years.

Guelph's financial picture has brightened considerably during the Rozanski decade:

- nine consecutive years of balanced budgets;
- a \$40-million increase in research funding to the current annual support of more than \$106 million;
- growth in the University's endowment of some \$100 million to a 2003 total of \$134 million;
- a 600-per-cent increase in financial aid to students; and
- \$250 million in public- and private-sector investment in Guelph's facilities and infrastructure.

As Rozanski's tenure ends, U of G is undertaking the most significant building and renovation activity in its modern history, guided by the recent review of Guelph's campus master plan and supported by a successful \$75-million fundraising campaign.

The Campaign for the University of Guelph, with its theme "The Science of Life, the Art of Living," has promoted U of G's

vision to be the leader in a knowledge-based society and the emerging biology-based economy.

Rozanski's contributions have gone beyond campus boundaries. He is completing a two-year term as chair of the Council of Ontario Universities (COU), where he led successful efforts to restore government investment in Ontario's 18 universities.

"The funding environment for universities improved significantly in the two years he was chair," says COU president Ian Clark. "The council has done a terrific job under Dr. Rozanski's leadership."

In addition, Rozanski headed the 2002 Education Equality Task Force that reviewed Ontario's funding formula for the public school system. Minister of Education Elizabeth Witmer says his demonstrated leadership skills made him the right choice to chair the task force.

"Dr. Rozanski is known as a man who is a listener. We needed someone who would listen — not just pretend to listen, but really listen to the people," she says.

The resulting *Rozanski Report* recommended some \$2 billion in increased funding and has become a household name across the province.

In the last 10 years, the University of Guelph has become a household name across the country, says Walsh. "U of G is the envy of many universities in Canada. And everywhere I go, I hear people talking about Guelph."

He credits Rozanski's ability to build a team of campus leaders who have turned adversity into opportunity.

"Guelph is now widely recognized as not only the best comprehensive university in Canada, but also simply as one of the best."

BY MARY DICKESON



University of Guelph and for the man at its helm, president Mordechai Rozanski. On the left, in the decade-apart Rozanski family photos above, showing the growth of the University at the institutional level, the other photos mark some of the most significant events in Rozanski's installation in June 1993, he is flanked by former U of G presidents Bill Winegard and Minister of Agriculture and Food Noble Villeneuve sign a new partnership agreement. Top right: Toasting the creation of the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences. Bottom left: VP (academic) Connie Rooke and Nightingale. Centre right: At Rozanski's installation, Rozanski and former board chairs Bill Brock, Douglas Dodds and Simon Cooper, along with Rozanski's name. From left are Walsh, Brock, Alexander, the Rozanskis, Dodds and development), celebrate the launch of the University's capital campaign. Bottom right: The Guelph-Humber basketball team at the nationals in Halifax this spring.

# MaRS Landing Links Rural Innovation With Bay Street

Initiative offers new way to accelerate technology development and commercialization

**C**ONNECTING biological innovations with those who can use them is an ongoing challenge, but the link is improving, thanks to MaRS Landing (Medical and Related Sciences Links to Agricultural Network for Development and Innovation With Guelph). It's designed to provide a connection from agricultural and food, veterinary and rural-related discoveries to medical, scientific and health advances.

MaRS Landing links rural innovation with Bay Street, Canada's financial hub. Central to this connection is the establishment of the MaRS Discovery District in downtown Toronto, a 1.2-million-square-foot complex that unites the best of that city's scientific and business communities under one roof. The \$345-million complex, which will house research facilities, professional service providers and venture capital firms, among other resources, is set for completion by 2007.

This connection will be crucial for commercializing agri-food discoveries such as U of G's "enviro-pig."

"MaRS Landing will link new best-in-class rural technologies with funding and guide researchers through the legal and regulatory procedures required to reach commercialization," says executive director John Kelly.

The opportunities and services to be provided by the MaRS Landing initiative will include networking through Ontario research clusters — cities or towns concentrated with research institutes, including hospitals, universities and governmental research firms — via the Ontario Research and Innovation Optical Network.

Kelly says the advantages of this connection are numerous. It will facilitate communication and new research collaborations; give access to legal, financial and regulatory assistance and advice to help rural innovations become major commodities;



Standing outside MaRS Landing's new Research Park quarters are, from left, Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research); MaRS Landing executive director John Kelly; and "enviro-pig" researcher Prof. Cecil Forsberg, Microbiology.

PHOTO BY CARLENE VAN BRABANT

provide marketing and public relations management of new technologies; and connect experts and facilities in various disciplines to optimize resource use and improve the capabilities of individual organizations.

"The key goal of MaRS Landing is to help bring these resources together in a way that makes them accessible to discovery-oriented researchers, specifically those interested in advancing the cause of rural Ontario," says Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research).

MaRS Landing will facilitate new collaborations and partnerships between the main MaRS organization and Guelph's growing agricultural-life sciences cluster — one of the

largest in the country — to create one of the continent's most comprehensive medical/agricultural research networks.

"MaRS Landing will leverage our scientific and technological strength in a unique interdisciplinary and cross-institutional way," says Wildeman. "It's an opportunity for innovations coming out of research aimed at rural Ontario to mesh with innovation possibilities in the medical and other sectors."

Partners in this \$5.9-million project are the Corporation of the City of Guelph, Ontario Agri-Food Technologies, U of G and the MaRS Discovery District.

BY LESLIE IRONS  
SPARK PROGRAM

# New Tests Support Efforts to Fight West Nile Virus

Lab Services can reduce turnaround times for results

**U**OF G HAS THREE new weapons to add to its arsenal of experience and expertise in the fight against West Nile virus.

Laboratory Services' Animal Health Laboratory (AHL) is offering three tests previously unavailable in Ontario that can confirm potential West Nile cases in horses. Two of the tests — the IgM ELISA and the IgG ELISA — analyze blood samples from live horses. The third test — real-time PCR — can be used on any species and examines brainstem and spinal cord samples post-mortem to confirm positive results. The tests were developed for AHL by veterinary scientists, including Susy Carman and Davor Ojic.

"The ELISAs are equine-specific and among the most important diagnostic tests for horses," says AHL manager Grant Maxie.

The ELISAs look for West Nile virus antibodies, which are detectable eight to 10 days after infection. Before now, the closest lab that offered antibody tests was at Cornell University in New York.

"Now that we can do all three tests in-house, we can, on average, have results back in half the time," says Maxie.

The turnaround times for the tests range from three to five days to nine to 16 days. Shipping charges and other fees associated with sending materials out of the country and province have also been eliminated.

When West Nile virus first hit the equine population in Ontario last August, the few labs that offered advanced testing were inundated, resulting in a backlog that extended turnaround times.

"Everybody was scrambling," says Maxie. "Now that we've developed the ELISAs, we're ready to handle the cases that come our way this season."

He adds that how extensive the virus infection becomes this summer will depend on numerous vari-

ables such as weather conditions.

Last year, AHL pathologists diagnosed West Nile virus as the cause of disease in 22 of 25 suspect horses submitted for post-mortem exams. For its part, OVC diagnosed West Nile in 28 horses ranging in age from five months to 20 years. Of those horses, 12 died or were euthanized and 16 were discharged, and nearly all of those were "normal" in a few weeks. Overall in Canada, there were 239 confirmed equine cases, at least 80 of them in Ontario. Prof. Scott Weese, Clinical Studies, estimates that another 700 to 1,000 horses were affected in Ontario and several thousand in Canada.

A vaccine that is considered safe and effective for horses is now available in Canada, says Weese, who oversaw the treatment of some of the suspect cases at OVC last year and recommends vaccination.

"Hopefully, the fact that the vaccine is now widespread will help, but I wouldn't be surprised if we see just as many cases this year as last."

Weese adds that he doesn't expect to see the first cases for a few months. "The peak is probably going to be August through October, which is consistent with other jurisdictions."

He notes that OVC now has a protocol in place for dealing with West Nile virus cases. "We spent about six months putting it together. It's a very detailed plan of how to treat horses, birds and small animals at OVC to reduce the spread and risk of exposure to people."

In addition, pathobiology professor Ian Barker continues to provide surveillance and testing for West Nile virus through the Canadian Co-operative Wildlife Health Centre (CCWHC). The centre was among the first agencies contacted by Health Canada in 1999 to help develop a national strategy to deal with the public- and animal-health challenges posed by West Nile. The virus was first detected in a bird in Ontario in August 2001, with the first cases in horses and humans detected in fall 2002.

The CCWHC, under Barker's direction, was charged with monitoring and detecting activity in the environment and ecosystems in a timely manner that would permit public-health preventive measures. Last year, his lab tested more than 1,000 birds. Technicians working in that lab and others across the country also posted tracking, mapping and accounting activity on national Web sites. Health Canada used the information to provide daily updated maps showing West Nile virus activity across the entire country.

Barker has said the next goal is to use the information collected to make predictions about which areas of Ontario and Canada pose the greatest public-health risk.

BY LORI BONA HUNT

# Leadership Conference June 24 and 25

First students to complete U of G's leadership program will receive their diplomas

**U**OF G WILL HOST its second annual Leadership Conference June 24 and 25, focusing on the theme "The Learning of Leadership." More than 15 speakers from different sectors will discuss their perspectives on what makes an effective leader, their approaches in mentoring new leaders and the role leadership plays in government, corporate and public sectors.

Five models for teaching leadership will be featured in separate presentations, ranging from Annamie Paul describing her program at the Canadian Centre for Political Leadership, which helps those in minor-

ity communities learn the arts of running for political office and entering the Canadian mainstream, to Ann Gordon of the Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program outlining its long-standing successes in training leaders for rural communities.

Other speakers include Canada's former ambassador to Cuba, Mark Entwistle; Nathalie Des Rosiers, president of the Law Commission of Canada; Toronto MP Dr. Carolyn Bennett; Eduardo Perez, CEO of Guelph's Homewood Health Centre; and Prof. Karen Korabik, Psychol-

ogy. Former Ontario premier Bill Davis will offer "Lessons for Leaders" at a June 24 banquet at the Cutten Club. Chancellor Lincoln Alexander will preside at the evening event, which will include the presentation of leadership diplomas to the first students to complete U of G's new leadership program.

The conference will also mark the launch of *Leading in an Upside-Down World*, a book edited by Patrick Boyer, conference chair and U of G adjunct political science professor. Based on last year's conference proceedings, the book contains 17 chapters providing new Canadian

perspectives on leadership and includes a foreword by Liberal leader candidate Paul Martin.

The conference coincides with Guelph's online diploma in leadership's residential course offered through the Faculty of Management and the Office of Open Learning.

The fee for the full conference is \$225 and includes conference sessions, refreshments and the banquet. The cost for individual half-day sessions is \$50 general, \$25 for seniors and students. The complete program and registration form are available at [www.guelphleadership.com/conference](http://www.guelphleadership.com/conference).



Prof. Kathryn Preuss is studying new ways to make miniature magnets for use in computers and storage media. PHOTO BY OLIVIA BROWN

## A Magnet the Size of a Molecule

*It could render bulky computer circuits obsolete*

**M**OVE OVER, notebook computers: U of G researchers are studying new ways to make miniature magnets — the size of a molecule, in fact — that could render chunky computer circuits and storage media obsolete.

Prof. Kathryn Preuss, Chemistry and Biochemistry, and her research team are looking at molecular magnetism, with the goal of turning a single molecule into a magnet.

It's an unprecedented design feat. "The idea is to actually magnetize a single molecule," says Preuss. "If we can make this work, it would be the first rational synthesis of a single-molecule magnet in the world."

Magnets have two poles and can point in either direction. That means they're able to encode one "bit" — that is, a unit of information having one of two values (which underlies all computer language).

The single-molecule magnets (SMMs) Preuss wants to create could become the smallest method of storing information yet.

Currently, data storage based on magnetism, such as the magnetic tape found inside audiocassettes,

videocassettes and floppy disks, relies on the phenomenon of "bulk ferromagnetism" — the interactions between the hundreds or thousands of molecules — to maintain its magnetic properties.

But Preuss's proposed SMMs don't need to interact with molecules around them to stay magnetic. "This allows data density to be increased and enables us to store the same amount of data in a fraction of the space," she says.

A few SMMs have been created previously, mostly by serendipity. Not only were they unplanned, but they were also impractical. Their useful temperature range — at which they become and remain magnetized — is around -250 C.

Now, Preuss is working on a coherent synthesis of an SMM that can be created consistently from a chemical recipe and can retain its magnetism at a usable temperature.

"If we're successful, this would be a huge technological leap for the electronics industry," she says.

This work is sponsored by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council.

BY MURRAY TONG  
SPARK PROGRAM

## Clarification

**I**N THE JUNE 4 ARTICLE "NSERC Boosts Guelph Research," it was reported that Prof. Moira Ferguson, Zoology, has received \$51,000 over five years for her work on the evolutionary genetics of fishes. It should have read \$51,000 a year for five years.

# Youth Criminal Justice Act Is a Good Starting Point, Says Guelph Sociologist

*Effectiveness of new legislation will depend on how well it's administered*

**E**VEN THOUGH the Youth Criminal Justice Act replaced the 1984 Young Offenders Act (YOA) more than two months ago, most people don't realize the new legislation "fundamentally changes the way the government of Canada hopes we respond to youths who offend," says Prof. Jane Sprott, Sociology and Anthropology.

The new act says, for example, that taxpayers shouldn't be shelling out money for small shoplifting cases to be tried in court. Instead, young shoplifters should be dealt with by police through a cautioning program.

Sprott believes the new act deals with crime more quickly and still holds the child accountable.

She and University of Toronto criminologist Anthony Doob examine some of these fundamental changes in the article "Changing Models of Youth Justice in Canada," which appears in the fall 2003 issue of *Crime and Justice: A Review of the Research*.

One of the main changes of the new legislation, which came into effect April 1, is that the sentence a youth receives should be in proportion to the seriousness of the offence.

"That might not sound like much, but it gets judges all on the same page," says Sprott. "They're

now focusing on the offence. Hopefully, that will decrease some of the variation we see across provinces, and it will also keep some of the more minor cases out."

Between 100,000 and 120,000 cases go to youth court every year in Canada, and only 50 to 100 cases have been serious enough to be transferred to adult court under the old YOA system. The new act gives the youth justice court the power to impose adult sentences without having to transfer the case to adult court. Under the YOA, a hearing would determine whether the case would be tried in adult or youth court.

"Before any of the facts had even been established, the judge would have to decide which system to try the case in," says Sprott. "What they've done with the Youth Criminal Justice Act is make this process a little smarter. They've recognized that this is essentially a sentencing issue. Whether or not the person is guilty beyond a reasonable doubt is the same for adults and youth, so now they just keep the case in youth court and decide after the facts of the case have been established which system is best based on the seriousness of the offence."

If a judge can craft a sentence in youth court proportionate to the se-

riousness of the offence, the case now remains in youth court. If the offence is one that requires a harsher punishment to match its gravity, the case goes to adult court.

"Close to 75 per cent of what we see in court and custody are really minor offences like administration of justice, minor assaults, minor property stuff," says Sprott. "It's enormously expensive to take a kid through court, and do we really want to waste what resources we have on minor shoplifters or vandalism cases?"

Instead of having every offence go through the long process of a transfer hearing and trial, the Youth Criminal Justice Act has created more options for dealing with youth convicted of an offence, such as police diversion programs and community-based measures.

Although Sprott thinks the new system is a good starting point and is much clearer than the YOA, she believes that how the Youth Criminal Justice Act is administered will make all the difference. "There have already been cases come up where the sentences have gone against what the act says. It's going to be a difficult learning period over the next couple of years. It's all going to come down to implementation."

BY RACHELLE COOPER

## When Cancer Lowers Its Guard

*Study looks at lowering the body's defences and sending cancer packing*

**C**ANCER PATIENTS undergoing chemotherapy suffer severe setbacks if tumour cells return after the treatment has finished and relapses occur. Relapses mean the potent chemotherapy drugs have lost their effect on the tumour. Now, a U of G researcher is looking at what makes cancer come back — and developing new ways to help chemotherapy continue fighting the disease.

Relapses occur when the cancer cells become resistant to chemotherapy drugs and aren't killed by the treatment. Prof. Frances Sharom, Chemistry and Biochemistry, is studying how cancers gain that resistance and working on methods to defeat it.

"Resistance to chemotherapy drugs means the cancer will continue to grow," says Sharom. She thinks the key to fixing the problem lies in a naturally occurring human protein called the P-glycoprotein multidrug transporter (Pgp), which expels a wide variety of drugs from cells.

Many tumour cells either have high levels of Pgp at the outset or experience increased levels after chemotherapy. Sharom and her

research group are using biochemical and biophysical methods to determine Pgp's structure and to learn how it pumps out drugs. They'll use this information to find ways to stop the protein from expelling the cancer-killing chemotherapy drugs.

Several Pgp blockers have been developed in the past, but Sharom says they have limited effectiveness and are often too toxic to the patient. Determining the structure of Pgp and its mechanism of function is an important step in improving the efficacy of chemotherapy against cancer.

"Chemotherapy is a very effective treatment for cancer, but tumours often develop resistance," she says. "If we can find a way to block the action of Pgp and combine that with chemotherapy, it may lead to improved methods of cancer treatment."

In addition to being present in some tumours, Pgp plays a natural defence role in the human body. High levels of Pgp are found in the cells lining the gut, to prevent uptake of toxins by the small intestine, and in the blood-brain barrier, a cellular "filter" that prevents drugs from entering the brain.

This can be a problem for drug companies because Pgp may prevent drugs from moving from the gut into the blood or from the blood into the brain. This can severely limit the effectiveness of many otherwise promising new drugs.

To tackle this problem, Sharom has teamed up with the international pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca to study numerous drugs to see how each is handled by Pgp. The method they're using, which is called high-throughput screening, allows them to test hundreds or even thousands of drugs simultaneously, significantly cutting down on trial times.

"By testing all new drug candidates, we hope to identify those that won't work because Pgp won't let them," she says. This will allow drug companies and researchers to weed out ineffective candidates before spending time and money to test these drugs in humans.

This research is sponsored by the National Cancer Institute of Canada, the Cancer Research Society (Montreal) and AstraZeneca.

BY MURRAY TONG  
SPARK PROGRAM

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## University Transfers From Clarica to Sun Life

**T**HE UNIVERSITY'S extended health-care and dental-care plans will be transferred from current insurer Clarica to Sun Life Financial July 1, 2003, as a result of Sun Life's recent acquisition of Clarica. Information packages have been mailed to employees and retirees.

Some highlights of the transition are:

New Pay-Direct Drug Cards  
Replacement Sun Life pay-direct cards have been mailed to employees

and retirees who are enrolled in the extended health-care plan. Anyone who has not received their card(s) should contact Human Resources.

When making a purchase after July 1, advise your pharmacist that the University's plan has been moved to Sun Life.

**New Travel Insurance Carrier**

Emergency health insurance coverage for travel outside Ontario will be provided by Sun Life through a third party, Worldwide Assistance Services Inc. Separate travel insurance cards will be provided.

**Availability of Service**

During the week of June 23 to 30, some services will be temporarily suspended to allow Sun Life to complete the transfer of benefit claim records from Clarica's systems to those at Sun Life.

- Paper claim processing will be suspended. Employees and retirees can, however, continue to mail in paper claims during this week, and they will be processed in July.
- Electronic submission of dental claims will be suspended. Dental visits during the last week of June will require the submission of a paper claim.

There will be no suspension in

the use of the pay-direct drug card. Employees and retirees can continue to use the Clarica pay-direct drug card until June 30, 2003.

**New Claim Forms**

Sun Life claim forms will be included in the information package, and additional copies can be printed from the Sun Life Web site. Starting July 1, Sun Life claim forms should be used.

**Benefits on the Internet**

Employees will be able to access the Sun Life Web site and try out its many features:

- arranging direct deposit for claim payments;
- viewing claim history;
- printing claim forms; and
- checking eligibility for vision-care purchases or future dental exams.

Further details will be provided with the information package being mailed out.

Vince Pellegrino of Human Resources says the University and Sun Life have taken many precautions to ensure a smooth transition and to minimize any inconvenience for University employees and retirees. Any questions about the transfer can be directed to Sun Life at 1-800-361-6212.

## LETTERS

### THANKS FOR A MEMORABLE FAREWELL

I wish to thank everyone who made my retirement party such a memorable event. It brought an end to 36 years of an enjoyable career at the University of Guelph. It was very special to me to see so many of my friends, relatives and colleagues there. On a lighter note, thanks to president Mordechai Rozanski for granting my appeal and not having

my car towed.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to my gifts, especially the Trisha Romance print and the patio set, which will add a beautiful touch to my new deck.

Although I may be on campus from time to time, I will miss all of you.

Lucie Turner

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# A Clearer Look at Breast Cancer

Computing scientist aims to save lives by improving detection rates in breast cancer screening

**P**ROF. MICHAEL WIRTH, Computing and Information Science (CIS), hopes to apply his computing know-how to improve the picture for women with breast cancer.

Mammography is the most reliable technique for detecting breast cancer, which accounts for almost one in three new cancer cases among Canadian women each year. But up to 30 per cent of cases may go undetected, usually because a clinician or radiologist misreads or misinterprets information contained in a mammogram, says Wirth.

By increasing detection sensitivity and providing a standardized approach to interpreting diagnostic images, automated screening might provide a second pair of eyes for a physician — and a chance to detect this deadly disease in time to treat it early, he says. "If I save a life in my career, that's a good thing."

Wirth says studies show that getting a second independent reading of mammograms may improve detection rates by up to 15 per cent. For that second opinion, he'd like to see more clinicians turn to computers.

Although his Reynolds Building office seems far removed from the screening clinic or laboratory, Wirth's behind-the-scenes work in analyzing and sharpening images like the one on his laptop might eventually find its way to the front lines. He's writing computer algorithms intended to help in computer-aided detection and diagnosis of breast cancer.

His research is an example of the growing field of biocomputing — using computers to solve biological problems.

Along with other CIS faculty members, Wirth belongs to the Guelph Natural Computation Group. Here, computer scientists might look to nature for models to develop computer processes, such as neural networks patterned on the workings of the brain. Natural computation also involves using computers to study nature, as in his field of image processing and enhancement.

That field has grown tremendously during the past two decades, with researchers applying computer-based image processing to medicine, security, geology — even food science, as evidenced by Wirth's copy of a new textbook, *Image Processing for the Food Industry*.

Key to that growth has been the use of computers to analyze the wealth of information obtained from medical diagnostic equipment, including everything from positron emission tomography to computerized tomography scans to magnetic resonance imaging. For all their sophistication, says Wirth, there is work to be done in refining images derived from the machines and helping to improve outcomes for cancer patients.

He will also serve as editor of a new electronic journal in natural computation to be published by the U of G group. Scheduled for twice-yearly "publication" by the end of



Prof. Michael Wirth would like to see more clinicians turning to computers to interpret the information contained in mammograms.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

this year, the *Canadian Journal of Natural Computation* will disseminate information such as data sets, images and interactive demonstrations, which are difficult to publish in traditional paper-based journals.

For example, the largest mammography database of its kind contains 10,000 images, representing some 2,500 cases across North America, obtained through breast screening programs. Researchers

may use the database to compare new cases against the documented images. Originally compiled by the University of South Florida, that data set was brought by Wirth to Guelph, where it now resides on the SHARCNET supercomputing network.

The young researcher arrived here himself three years ago from his native Australia, after completing his PhD at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology.

"Research is important here, but it's also important to get students interested in the work," says Wirth. He says two of his graduate students chose U of G specifically to study medical image processing. He teaches introductory computing for engineers and scientists, as well as a graduate course in medical image processing.

As a student himself, Wirth had originally enrolled in agriculture but switched to computing. His interest in image processing was later piqued by a work term he spent learning about digital map-making with the Australian Geological Survey. Drawn to medical applications for his master's degree at the University of Manitoba, he is now investigating collaboration with a Manitoba radiologist on 3-D techniques for breast cancer screening. He says he's intrigued by prospects for image processing, including the use of medical imaging for augmented reality surgery or non-invasive "Star Trek-style" scanning and diagnosis.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

## Grounds Explores Organic Alternatives as Part of Its Integrated Pest Management Program

New products ranging from fish emulsion to corn gluten are being field tested on campus this year

**F**ISH EMULSION, kelp, corn gluten and horticultural vinegar. That sounds like one bizarre concoction being dreamed up by John Reinhart, manager of Grounds.

What Reinhart is describing is an experimental smorgasbord of organic products and practices Guelph is investigating as environmentally friendly alternatives to chemical pesticides and fertilizers used in maintaining U of G's roughly 260 acres.

He admits the results might take a bit of getting used to, particularly for anyone with traditional ideas about what a picture-perfect university campus should look like. Changing landscaping and maintenance practices has even meant a few growing pains for Reinhart himself, who began working at U of G as a summer student, then cut short his drafting studies to take a full-time position here as a groundskeeper a quarter-century ago.

"Weedy turf will become the norm," he says. "The manicured look won't be expected."

His Grounds crew of about 19 people has changed some of their

groundskeeping practices. They're mowing less often and setting mowers higher to thicken turf and discourage weeds. And they're reducing their use of pesticides dramatically.

In other areas, a more naturalized approach has been adopted, allowing species traditionally considered weeds, such as dandelions and thistles, to remain in place. Grounds staff are also using a broader mixture of native and drought-tolerant varieties of plants, including sedum, potentilla, yarrow, day lilies and ivy. And they're avoiding monoculture, the use of mass street plantings of a single species or cultivar that might be vulnerable to disease or insects.

Those new products from fish emulsion to corn gluten are being field tested on campus this year as organic alternatives to synthetically prepared fertilizers. Several areas are being used, including the football and field hockey fields, the conservatory gardens and an area of Johnston Green between the portico and the parking lot in front of Johnston Hall.

Among the new practices, Reinhart's crew is using more soil aera-

tion techniques, topdressing and overseeding to reduce fertilizer use.

Going green in grounds maintenance doesn't come cheap. Reinhart says organic alternatives can easily cost 10 times as much per acre compared with conventional pesticides and fertilizers.

On the other hand, several fertilizer products come in forms that make nutrients more readily available to plants, meaning less product can be applied for the same results.

"Everyone agrees we have to be looking at different ways, better ways, of handling the pesticide issue," says Paul Specht, director of maintenance and operations in Physical Resources. "We have committed to supporting the Grounds Department in implementing, on a fairly restricted basis, a changeover to a pesticide-free environment."

He says experimental trials like those field sites will be monitored by Grounds staff during the next three to four years for costs, efficacy and appearance before a decision is made whether to expand the program.

"In many ways, we're on the lead-

ing edge," says Specht, adding that Guelph is second in Ontario only to Brock University in investigating and trying out alternatives to conventional pesticides.

Through Brock, U of G has connected with the SunFire Institute in Pennsylvania, which trains institutional grounds staff in organic landscape practices. Several Guelph staff members, including Reinhart, have attended courses with the institute.

Specht says he consults on grounds maintenance issues with the University's Landscape Advisory Committee, which provides guidance in looking after Guelph's sprawling green spaces, gardens, trees and natural areas.

The committee reviewed the Grounds initiative to ensure the proposal was consistent with the campus master plan and the University's academic objectives. Says committee chair Chris Pickard, director of planning, engineering and construction: "The Landscape Advisory Committee is quite supportive of this initiative and what I think is an experiment in integrated pest man-

agement on this campus."

He says a plant agriculture professor on the committee has even considered examining the results of these new initiatives in a research study.

Specht notes that the recent initiatives complement the University's pest management strategy, which outlines Guelph's goal to find ways to reduce pesticide use on campus.

The University has also been involved in recent city-wide discussions about a proposed municipal bylaw to govern pesticide use in Guelph. Specht says the University will work with the city to ensure that any future bylaw allows U of G to retain certain research capabilities, "so we can assist in the development of proper protocols in the use of certain chemicals and compounds to deal with emerging infestations."

He expects that general pesticide use, particularly among individual homeowners, will decrease as people learn more about alternative products and practices. "We're trying to do our part in that effort."

BY ANDREW VOWLES

# Rozanski 'a Passionate Advocate' for U of G

Continued from page 1

may be attributed to me are in fact the cumulative product of the wise counsel, the initiative and the actions of outstanding colleagues with whom I have worked this past decade."

Hundreds of current and former faculty, administrators, students and staff attended the tribute and farewell event, along with board members, government ministers, elected officials and members of the community.

Brock and his wife, Anne, presented flowers to Bonnie Rozanski, and Alexander thanked her for her service to the University. He also recognized the couple's son, Daniel, and his fiancée, Melanie Luckhart.

The chancellor paid special tribute to Bonnie as a 1997 U of G graduate with an M.Sc. in computing science. "You have left your stamp as well as your footprints in

the sands of this wonderful university," he said.

Later that day, Bonnie said enrolling at U of G was "one of the best things I ever did. Guelph is a terrific university. I should know. Unlike my husband, who has been privileged to work here and represent it but who graduated from McGill University, I am an alumna."

The Rozanski tribute also included the unveiling of the president's official portrait to be hung outside the boardroom on the fourth floor of the University Centre.

Brock, who chairs the board of the University's Heritage Trust, presented the president with a citation recognizing his service as a member of the Heritage Trust board. Guelph's endowment has grown by \$100 million during the president's tenure.

A central feature of the farewell

program was a video that gave a glimpse of the Rozanski family's personal life and their 10 years at Guelph. Through the video interviews, letters, telegrams and guests who attended the farewell event, there have been many tributes to the president from all branches of the University of Guelph family and beyond:

- Prof. Ann Gibbins, chair of the Department of Animal and Poultry Science: "He is a passionate advocate for the University in all spheres."

- Laura Beattie, assistant registrar (recruitment): "He always says hello and is appreciative of our efforts in student recruitment."

- Rich Appiah, former student senator: "He's a great team builder and is good at empowering people and letting them shine."

- OAC graduate Tom Sawyer, vice-president of Sylville Sales and a longtime member of the OAC Alumni Association and Foundation: "Under Rozanski's leadership, Guelph alumni have discovered more reasons to be proud of the way our alma mater educates young people and contributes to Canada's research strength."

- PhD student Laurie Halfpenny-Mitchell, a 1997 graduate in engineering: "Dr. Rozanski always tried to make sure the student voice got heard on campus. He was proud of the fact that Guelph is known as both a strong academic school and a university with a friendly face toward students."

- OAC graduate John Kenneth Galbraith, professor emeritus at

Harvard University: "Few can contemplate an academic career where so much good has been accomplished. Who can doubt the great good fortune of Guelph in the finding and capture of this truly accomplished scholar, administrator and leader?"

- Ontario Premier Ernie Eves: "I asked Dr. Rozanski to chair the Education Equity Task Force because he is apolitical... and because I knew I would get a very honest and frank evaluation."

- Provost and incoming president Alastair Summerlee: "When Mort came to Guelph, there was a sense that there was the potential for the University to be world-class, and it is for that transformation that he will be remembered."

BY MARY DICKIESON

## 3M Fellow Values Every Moment With Students

Continued from page 1

tor (a total of 12 Guelph professors have received the award) and is the first president-elect in Canada to be named a 3M Fellow.

Summerlee calls the award "an incredible and overwhelming honour. I was bowled over by the number of people who chose to write in support of my nomination."

But it's that one line in Hewson's letter that holds particular meaning. She took Summerlee's class because she *wanted* to. It's a teaching standard he set for himself years before heading to the front of the classroom. As a high school and university student, he had a reputation for truancy. It wasn't that he wasn't interested in learning. He always read ahead in his textbooks, but considered going to class a waste of time if the instructor didn't put forth any effort.

"It became a standing joke," Summerlee once said. "If class began at 9 a.m. and if I didn't think I was going to get something out of it, I was gone by 9:10 a.m. I can still hear the professor saying: 'Off again, Mr. Summerlee!'"

He vowed that as a teacher, he would make coming to class — and staying there — something his students enjoyed.

"I value every moment with students as precious and as an opportunity to challenge them," says Summerlee, who was also recognized with a Distinguished Professional Teaching Award from the U of G Faculty Association in 1991. "We each have to have a reason to want to learn, and the teacher has to provide the circumstances or the situations to motivate that learning."

Throughout his career, he has been known as a pioneer of alternative teaching methods, based on his strong belief that people learn in different ways, at different speeds and for different purposes. At OVC, he pushed for a curriculum that fo-

cused on problem-based learning, a model later adopted as part of the University's learner-centred approach to teaching. He used three-dimensional interactive models as an alternative to animals and, as an administrator, launched an extensive revision of the veterinary program. He helped create the University of Guelph-Humber, which allows students to earn an honours degree and a college diploma in only four years.

Summerlee has also been recognized internationally for his research and publications in the biomedical sciences.

"Alastair is an inspiration both inside and outside the classroom," says president Mordechai Rozanski, whom Summerlee will succeed July 15. "Alastair inspires students to want to learn and, as an administrator, he motivates his colleagues to create learning environments that inspire people to learn. He is personally dedicated to ensuring that our students leave this university not just with knowledge, but also with the desire to know even more."

Graduate student Josh Silvertown, who has taken classes from Summerlee and worked in his OVC laboratory, says students rave about the biomedical scientist's ability to explain complex issues in a simple and charming manner. He also treats all students with respect and dignity, often thanking them for things he's learned from them. "I have yet to meet any student of Alastair's who has not been positively affected and inspired," Silvertown says.

But it's Summerlee's unconventional approach to teaching and learning that Silvertown considers most praiseworthy, something he believes is best illustrated by his mentor's famous desire to sometimes teach in bare feet.

"It's an eccentricity that his students consider an exemplifying characteristic of his belief in stepping

away from stereotypical and traditional teaching styles."

Indeed, putting students at ease is one of Summerlee's specialties, says 1992 DVM graduate Doug McGrogan, who now runs Fish Health Management, an aquaculture veterinary medical service based in Hamilton. "It's a crucial skill when seeking to open minds to new concepts and information."

McGrogan was a student when Summerlee first arrived from the University of Bristol in 1988 and remembers him as "young, dashing and charismatic. In no time at all, he had swept our collective feet out from under us, immediately captivating our class through his instruction of anatomy, of all subjects."

Over the years, Summerlee continued teaching while holding ad-

ministrative positions. He was appointed OVC's associate dean in 1992, dean of graduate studies in 1995, associate vice-president (academic) in 1999 and provost in 2000. He also plans to teach next year as president.

"What is remarkable and inspirational for this entire university is his commitment to continue teaching and doing research despite additional, almost unending responsibilities," says Prof. Jill McCutcheon, OVC's assistant dean (academic affairs), who oversaw Summerlee's 3M nomination by the college.

Prof. Maureen Mancuso, associate vice-president (academic), adds: "When I took up my current position, he specifically encouraged me to stay regularly engaged in the classroom, and his example demon-

strated that doing so was not only possible, but also rewarding, despite the extra effort required."

For Summerlee, extra effort is always a given. After just about every lecture, he ditches his notes, even in subjects where the material doesn't change much. He says he does it to avoid "falling into the trap" of bringing out last year's notes. It was something his own mentor, world-renowned reproductive endocrinologist Dennis Lincoln, taught him some 30 years ago. "If you have to create the material from scratch each time, you will approach it from the perspective of the learner each time."

Perhaps that's why — year after year — Summerlee's classes are filled with students who *want* to be there.

BY LORI BONA HUNT

## Chair to Address Healthy Integration of Work, Family

Continued from page 1

being as a foundation for both economic growth and strong communities."

An outspoken proponent of business ethics and the accountability of corporate governance, Jarislowsky is president of the Jarislowsky Foundation, which was established to support university chairs and medical equipment and research. The Jarislowsky Chair in Families and Work will be the 10th Canadian university chair funded by the foundation.

The Guelph chair will be housed in the Centre for Families, Work and Well-Being, which was created in 1998 with a mandate to promote in-

dividual and family well-being, responsive and productive work environments, and strong, sustainable communities.

"Changes in family patterns, paid work and broader economic and political structures bring to the forefront the importance of research, policy development and progressive practices to provide employees with the flexibility and support they need to succeed in multiple roles," says Lero, a research director of the centre.

Her own work focuses on parental- and family-leave policies, workplace support for families and the quality of child-care services. She

played an active role in the federally funded "You Bet I Care!" studies on the quality of child care in Canada.

"As the Jarislowsky chair, I see my role as providing leadership in visioning and implementing a rigorous and policy-relevant program of research, developing courses and instructional resources, and promoting the application of best practices in private, public and non-profit sectors," she says. "My work will dovetail with other investments to increase the capacity of the Centre for Families, Work and Well-Being to function as the premier facility for such work in Canada."

BY MARY DICKIESON

# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR SALE

1996 Ford Windstar minivan, V6, loaded, air conditioning, keyless, service records available, e-tested, certified, Ext. 53263, 836-0153 or gmanning@uoguelph.ca.

1990 Pontiac Sunbird LE, maroon with grey interior, well-maintained, runs well, e-tested, could use body work on bottom of doors, 150,000 kilometres, 826-7795.

1990 Ford Taurus, automatic, new tires, trailer hitch, certified, e-tested, 119,000 miles; Fido 700 series cellular phone, activation by a prepaid service; eight-inch fan, used only a few times, Ext. 58592, 822-9263 evenings or tawad@uoguelph.ca.

Snowshoe Siamese Kittens, Siamese colouring with white markings, gentle disposition, flame, chocolate or lynx point, family-raised, 519-327-8867 or warthur@ovc.uoguelph.ca.

Player piano, refinished, with about 70 rolls, 824-9670 or lhanshaw@uoguelph.ca.

Handmade wooden clothes dryers, Ext. 56580.

Kenmore electric oven, almond, good condition, Ann, Ext. 52377.

1996 Sable, 165,000 km., Ext. 58770 or Jeff@research.uoguelph.ca.

Two dressers with mirror, night table, 25-inch television, stereo, 836-4524 after 6 p.m.

Kenmore vertical window air conditioner, 8,000 BTU, used only 1½ summers, Ext. 56580.

Futon sofa, ktayoda@uoguelph.ca.

Scott Prospector 16-foot canoe, 519-348-9631 evenings or finkett@ezlink.on.ca.

Babylon 5 VHS movie collection, Pat, Ext. 54086, 780-1804 or pbell@uoguelph.ca.

The Merthyr Affair by Fionnuala Reeves, www.speedside.ca.

Moving sale: 1998 Geo Metro, futon couch, kitchen table, microwave, entertainment centre, gas barbecue, Sealy double bed, VCR, stereo, colour inkjet printer, 30-gallon aquarium, 12-speed Huffly mountain bike, numerous other household items, prices negotiable, Shelley, 836-0795 or sball@uoguelph.ca.

## FOR RENT

Two-bedroom house, close to bus, laundry and downtown, large fenced yard, \$950 a month plus utilities, Cobi, 836-8086 or cdmembers@uoguelph.ca.

Four-bedroom house, ideal for family or four students, two baths, laun-

dry, dishwasher, three parking spots, central air, close to Hartsland Zehrs, non-smokers, no pets, available Sept 1, \$1,660 a month plus utilities, Nathan, 767-1312 or pulikutty03@rogers.com.

Two-bedroom upper apartment, parking, balcony, close to downtown and campus, summer sublet possible, \$856 a month plus utilities, bedrooms can be rented separately, Lynda, 821-8710.

Two-bedroom cottage on Dyers Bay in Georgian Bay, small hamlet close to Bruce Trail, suitable for three people, weekly rental, 519-795-7221 or bhansen@uoguelph.ca.

Furnished four-bedroom home on quiet street, two baths, garage, laundry, fireplace, 15-minute walk to campus, non-smokers, pets welcome, Web photos available, \$1,500 a month plus utilities, available Aug. 1 to July 31, 2004, Stephanie, 836-7920 or snutting@uoguelph.ca.

Furnished four-bedroom house, 20-minute walk to campus, 2½ baths, laundry, central air and vac, fireplace, non-smokers, no pets, ideal for visiting faculty and family, \$1,775 a month, 837-9514.

Three-bedroom house near downtown, 25-minute walk to campus, laundry, appliances, available July 1, \$1,050 a month, Ext. 53536, 837-0175 or kinwood@uoguelph.ca.

Two-bedroom apartment to sublet, parking, laundry, on bus route, available immediately, \$775 a month plus utilities, 821-1493 after 6 p.m.

Three-bedroom house, two baths, garage, central air and vac, appliances, close to downtown, suitable for professional couple, families or visiting faculty, available Aug. 1 with one-year lease, references, \$1,700 a month plus utilities, 824-4370.

One-bedroom basement apartment in quiet west-end neighbourhood, private entrance, parking, express bus to University, air conditioning, non-smoker, no pets, available Sept. 1 with one-year lease, \$650 a month plus utilities, 837-8843.

Furnished three-bedroom house in south end, three baths, reduced rent in exchange for care of two cats, non-smokers, available August to mid-December, Ext. 54981, 836-6264 or m.wren@exec.uoguelph.ca.

Furnished three-bedroom townhouse near Stone Road to share with working male, non-smokers, pets considered, references required, one-year lease, \$500 a month plus half of utilities, 826-3829.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in house in old University area, suitable for one student, separate entrance, laundry, no parking, no pets, non-smokers, five-minute walk to campus, \$650 a month plus utilities,

763-0449 or mnelisch@uoguelph.ca.

Three male university students seeking a fourth student to rent a four-bedroom house on Memorial Crescent, close to bus stop, dishwasher, washer/dryer, central air, available July 1, \$400 a month plus shared utilities, Diane or Jeff, 519-652-2255 or cookdee2020@hotmail.com.

Furnished house suitable for one or two adults, close to parks and campus, on bus route, available July 1 to Aug. 31, \$500 a month plus utilities, Denise, 824-9497 after 6 p.m. or deniseb@bellnet.com.

Three-bedroom, two-storey house on Old Colony Trail, 30-minute walk to campus, washer/dryer, dishwasher, central air, available Aug. 1 for long lease, \$1,600 a month plus utilities, Leon, 836-4085.

Two-bedroom apartment near Hanton and Stone, ensuite laundry, two baths, gas fireplace, \$1,200 a month plus utilities, Ext. 56441, 837-8719 or krj@physics.uoguelph.ca.

Four-bedroom older house near downtown, large yard, available Sept. 1 for eight to 12 months, \$1,400 a month, negotiable, John, Ext. 56007 or jklirono@uoguelph.ca.

Basement apartment close to campus, non-smokers, no pets, vward@uoguelph.ca.

House near Southampton, England, 823-1328.

## WANTED

Two- or three-bedroom cottage on a lake for two U of G profs with three active boys, ages five, 10 and 13, for Aug. 9 to 16, Ben or Barbara, Ext. 53086 or 767-6734.

Used colour TV, 30 inches or larger, in good condition, leave message at 826-4370 or 837-8596 evenings.

Paddles, life jackets, water skis, Ext. 50243, 821-7069 or barb@pr.uoguelph.ca.

## AVAILABLE

Qualified teacher for private lessons/tutoring in French, Spanish, ESL, beginning late August, 824-0536 or dbuchner@uoguelph.ca.

Experienced mom with nursing degree has day-care space for child in her home, no pets, non-smokers, meal and snack provided, receipt and references available, 821-4279.

Weekly play dates for German-speaking toddlers, preschoolers and caregivers to develop German-language skills, Tanja, 837-8843, or Ute, 763-9179.

Kittens free to good home, raised in house, Ext. 52860, 740-7764 evenings, lshuh@fin.uoguelph.ca.

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## ARBORETUM

The Arboretum's Sunday afternoon walks continue June 22 with "Reptiles and Amphibians" and June 29 with "Paper Bag Lunch." They leave from the Nature Centre at 2 p.m.

Arboretum workshops slated for September include sessions on hawks Sept. 10, willows of southern Ontario Sept. 18 and late summer bloom Sept. 24. For details, call Ext. 2113 or visit the Web site [www.uoguelph.ca/~arboretu](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~arboretu).

The Arboretum Auxiliary will hold its annual plant sale Sept. 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the R.J. Hilton Centre on College Avenue East.

## ART CENTRE

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre volunteers present Gardenscapes, a

self-guided tour of 10 private Guelph gardens, June 22. It runs from noon to 5 p.m., rain or shine. Admission is \$10 general, \$3 for children. For details, call 837-0010.

## NOTICES

Alumni Weekend runs June 20 to 22 and includes a celebration of the 100th anniversary of Macdonald Institute. Events kick off with the unveiling of a commemorative stamp Friday at 10:30 a.m. in Creelman Hall, the annual Mac-FACS Alumni Association's annual seminar series at noon and the launch of Prof. Jamie Snell's history of Macdonald Institute at 7:30 p.m. at the University Club. For full details of Alumni Weekend events, visit the Web site [www.alumni.uoguelph.ca/aw2003/](http://www.alumni.uoguelph.ca/aw2003/).

Until Aug. 15, the McLaughlin

Library is open 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday to Friday and noon to 10 p.m. on weekends and holidays. The OVC Learning Commons is open 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays and noon to 5 p.m. on weekends. It's closed on holidays. During the between-semester period Aug. 16 to Sept. 1, McLaughlin will be open 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday to Friday and noon to 7 p.m. on weekends and Labour Day. OVC will be open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and closed on weekends and Labour Day.

The Department of Plant Agriculture's Vineland Station hosts its annual twilight meeting and an orchard tour featuring cherry and apricot research July 16, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Vineland Station Farm. For more details, contact Prof. John Cline at [jccline@uoguelph.ca](mailto:jccline@uoguelph.ca) or

Debbie Norton at [dnorton@uoguelph.ca](mailto:dnorton@uoguelph.ca). They can also be reached at 905-562-4141.

## THESIS DEFENCE

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Mark Andruskiw, Zoology, is June 23 at 2 p.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "Prey Abundance, Availability and Anxiety in Structured Environments." The co-advisers are Prof. John Fryxell and I.D. Thompson.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

An Aboriginal Solidarity Day fundraiser will be held June 21 from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Guelph Youth Music Centre, 75 Cardigan St. Local Guelph aboriginal organizations are planning a showcase of drumming, food, crafts and storytelling. For more information, call 763-5292.

GuelphFEST 2003 runs Aug. 3 from noon to 7 p.m. at John Galt Park. This year's theme is "The Spirit of the Pioneer." Organizers are looking for volunteers to help out. For information, call 837-5662, Ext. 2206.

The Guelph Concert Band presents free summer concerts at Riverside Park beginning June 29 at 7 p.m. The series continues July 6 with the Stratford Concert Band.

The Art of the Garden tour in Erin runs June 21 and 22 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For details, call 843-2228.

The 2003 Elora Festival runs July 11 to Aug. 2, featuring world-class performers in a wide range of musical events. For tickets, call 1-800-265-8977 or 846-0331. For program information, visit the Web site [www.elorafestival.com](http://www.elorafestival.com).

# New Summer Camp Aims to Boost Girls' Self-Esteem

*Participants will have an opportunity to confront issues and challenge themselves in a safe environment*

**G**IRLS AGED NINE TO 13 are bombarded with mixed messages on body image, sex, violence and power from music videos, school, friends and advertisements. On top of these outside influences, having to deal with their own changing bodies and feelings about relationships without comparative experiences can be overwhelming to a young girl.

Two U of G staff members have independently realized there is a crucial need for programs that give young girls the tools to cope with mixed messages and empower them to take control of their lives.

Pat Richards, fitness, lifestyle and camps co-ordinator in the Department of Athletics, says she's watched extremely confident six-, seven- and eight-year-old girls mysteriously lose self-esteem before they enter their teenage years.

After years of mulling over the idea of starting a program to target this age group, she is launching Gryphon Girls Inc.: Strong, Bold, Proud through the Gryphon Camps program July 28 to Aug. 1. Gryphon Girls Inc. is a day camp that gives nine- to 13-year-old girls a chance to confront issues and challenge themselves in a safe environment.

"The intent is not to change them, but if I can give them some skills to move in a direction so they're not simply reacting to forces but they understand where pressures are coming from, then I think I can help them through this time in their lives," says Richards.

She will lead the camp and will

bring in fitness instructors, nutrition students and guest speakers to talk with the girls about self-esteem, confidence, nutrition, body changes and relationships. She'll use facilitated discussions and activities that help build self-esteem, including aerobics, kickboxing, strength training and rock climbing.

"The reason I'm really big on a strong active component in this camp is because if your body is able to achieve something, you don't have to tell your head anything," says Richards. "If you can climb up a wall, there's a real inward sense of accomplishment."

She believes a debriefing process following each activity will make the most of each experience.

Linda Hawkins, executive director of the Centre for Families, Work and Well-Being, highlights Gryphon Girls Inc. as an example of the type of program more cities should be offering in a study she has just completed for the YWCA in Toronto.

Hawkins says the camp is targeting an important age group. "Essentially, those years are key to girls developing their sense of self and their abilities to focus on caring for themselves as opposed to caring for others."

Both she and Richards acknowledge that boys also need special attention, and if parents show a demand for a similar boys' camp, Richards says she'll look into offering one in the future.

Hawkins says all girls' camps are effective because "girls often don't feel comfortable being physical or speaking in a mixed environment. Having a safe, comfortable place to share feelings is something we've found girls really place importance on at that age."

Hawkins has listed Gryphon Girls Inc. in her database of positive programs because it fulfils her three recommendations for developing girls' programs.

"We'll be asking the YWCA in the greater Toronto area to do three things," says Hawkins. "One is to include a physical activity component in every single program they offer. The second will be to ensure there is a skills development component in every program. The third will be to establish a mechanism for girls' participation in decision-making."

Girls need to be more physically active because of health and obesity concerns, say Richards and Hawkins. "When girls learn how to look after themselves and their bodies, it's often about appearance and not about what food they consume or energy they expend," says Hawkins. "If you look at girls who are physically active, they may be more likely to stay in school and more likely to

volunteer in the community."

Skills development is also important because it helps girls develop a sense of competence, says Hawkins. She believes it's important for younger girls to get experience in a wide range of activities and skills early on. They won't, for example, be intimidated by a career requiring the use of hand tools if they've had exposure to different equipment from a young age.

She cites a week-long day camp in locations across Canada called Girls Exploring Trades and Technology (GETT) as a great example of a program with skills development, physical activity and a strong role model.

"At age 12, girls in GETT can run a skill saw and wire a socket. They have the option of building on those

skills and will know they can do their own home repairs or may even consider occupations that require technical skills. If you wait another five years, they might not feel comfortable picking up a hammer."

Gryphon Girls Inc. is only one of many programs catering to girls at Guelph. PAGES (Promoting Awareness: Girls in Engineering and Science) is a residential camp with a focus on engineering and science for girls entering grades 7 and 8, the All-Girls Science and Engineering Club is an extension of PAGES for girls 12 to 15, and the S@GE camp for grades 7 and 8 students uses female graduate student instructors to act as mentors to encourage girls to go into science-related fields.

BY RACHELLE COOPER

# International Science Fiction Conference Comes to Campus

*Some 80 science fiction scholars and eight authors expected to attend*

**T**HE SCIENCE FICTION Research Association's annual conference is being held at U of G June 26 to 29. This is the first time in more than two decades the conference is taking place in Canada, says conference director Prof. Peter Brigg, English and Theatre Studies.

Some 80 science fiction scholars and eight authors will address the theme "Speculating Histories: Remembering Yesterday, Experiencing Today, Predicting Tomorrow." Guest of honour is science fiction and fantasy writer Geoff Ryman, who received the British Science Fiction Association Award and the World Fantasy Award for his 1984 novel, *The Unconquered Country*.

Other speakers include Canadian science fiction author Robert

Sawyer, who has published 15 novels and has won 27 national and international writing awards, including the Nebula for his book *The Terminal Experiment*. Frederick Pohl, a major science fiction author and central figure to the Futurians, and Phyllis Gottlieb, whose first novel, *Sunburst* (1964), provides the name for Canada's Sunburst Award, will also give talks and appear on a panel during the four-day event.

"My hope is that it will be the largest conference yet," says Brigg, who attended last year's conference in Scotland. He's optimistic that the Guelph conference, with talks on  *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and the link between rave culture and science fiction, as well as a demonstration of digital 3-D technology, will attract

younger science fiction scholars.

Having taught a course on science fiction at Guelph since 1973, Brigg knows the genre is continually gaining popularity. More than 450 science fiction courses are currently taught on campuses across North America, he says.

The conference will take place on the third floor of the MacKinnon Building, with three rooms dedicated to sessions and one room to book sales. Plenary sessions will be in the George Luscombe Theatre.

Registration for the full conference is \$75 for members of the Science Fiction Research Association. A visitor's pass to unlimited conference sessions can be purchased for \$30 at the conference site.

BY RACHELLE COOPER

THIS IS THE FINAL ISSUE OF @GUELPH FOR THE SUMMER SEMESTER. OUR FIRST ISSUE IN SEPTEMBER WILL APPEAR SEPT. 10. DEADLINE TO RECEIVE COPY FOR THAT ISSUE IS SEPT. 2.

# @GUELPH

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## Long-Anticipated Double Cohort Class Arrives

*After years of planning for student growth, U of G has all the bases covered, says acting provost*

**L**IKE MOST FIRST-YEAR students, Amy and Matt Allen have a mishmash of emotions about starting university.

There's the usual exuberance about living on their own. Both brother and sister are excited about meeting new people, getting involved in activities and focusing on learning. There are also typical new-student jitters about things ranging from workloads to juggling school and social life.

But Amy and Matt have some concerns that are unique to their entering class. They are part of the so-called double cohort, the wave of Grade 12 and OAC students entering university at the same time.

"We were warned about it all through high school," says Amy, who turned 18 in July. "Teachers kept telling us how difficult it was going to be, so I worked really, really hard."

Although her efforts earned her an entrance scholarship, she still frets about missing a year of calculus and science. "I'm really excited, but I'm worried I'm not ready."

In contrast, 19-year-old Matt, a member of the last graduating OAC class, isn't concerned about his academic abilities (he also received an entrance scholarship) or rumours of large classes and long lineups due to the double cohort. Instead, his greatest fear is winding up in the same courses as his sister, who is also studying biological sciences.



Although a year apart in age, siblings Amy and Matt Allen of Guelph have arrived at U of G together this fall because of the elimination of Grade 13.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

"I told my parents if we were put in the same residence, I was moving back home," he says with a laugh.

Prof. Maureen Mancuso, acting provost and vice-president (academic), has just one word of advice for the duo: relax. Admittedly, she can't do anything about sibling squabbles and can't guarantee that Matt won't run into his sister on campus, but short of that, the bases are covered, she says.

"We're ready for them and the

rest of the entering students."

Last week, U of G welcomed 4,600 first-year students to campus, about 600 above the enrolment target set for the main campus, with most of the growth seen in the bachelor of commerce program. "But the number is still well within our planning range," says Mancuso, "and we've been planning for this student growth since 1998."

Nor do the numbers worry president Alastair Summerlee, who is de-

lighted by the interest in U of G.

"The quality of our applicant pool this year was the strongest we've ever seen," he says. "Students are choosing to come here because of the excellence of our faculty, staff and programs, and it's wonderful news."

Summerlee credit deans, associate deans, program counsellors, department chairs, faculty advisers, registrarial and student housing staff, Physical Resources staff and many other members of the Univer-

sity community for making it possible to accommodate the additional students.

"Everyone has worked extremely hard to make sure we can achieve our goal of growth while maintaining a high-quality educational experience for all our students," he says.

For starters, there are new professors — and lots of them. Some 170 new faculty were hired over the past two years in preparation for the increased enrolment, 120 of them in the last academic year. More than 60 new faculty — full-time, contract and sessionals — attended a two-day faculty orientation in August that introduced them to the University culture, faculty roles and responsibilities and institutional expectations in teaching, research and service.

Many of the new faculty will be teaching students like Amy and Matt in Rozanski Hall, the state-of-the-art classroom complex that has just opened for classes. It features leading-edge facilities that will accommodate 1,530 students in a variety of lecture halls, ranging in size from 30 to 600 seats. The modern classrooms also have computer-based multimedia equipment for the delivery of technology-assisted courses.

Work is also well under way on the 400,000-square-foot science complex, which will centralize the physical, biological and computa-

*Continued on page 14*

## Four More Canada Research Chairs Awarded to U of G

*Scientists to study biodiversity, animal nutrition, water supply security, soil ecology*

**U**OF G HAS ADDED another four Canada Research Chairs (CRCs) — three of them new faculty members — to its growing cohort of distinguished CRC researchers.

The Guelph researchers were among 80 new CRC holders announced this summer by Industry Minister Allan Rock. U of G now has a total of 18 CRCs, worth some \$25 million when federal and provincial support is included.

Established in 2000 as a way of enabling Canadian universities to attract and retain excellent faculty, the CRC program supports two types of chairs: Tier 1 and Tier 2. Tier 1 chairs are acknowledged as international

leaders in their fields and are awarded \$200,000 a year for seven years. Tier 2 chairs are considered to have the potential to become world leaders in their fields and receive \$100,000 a year for five years. Guelph expects to eventually have 35 chairs.

"It's very exciting to have new research leaders join the University of Guelph," says Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research). "They bring a broad spectrum of expertise to our research community and to Canada's capacity for discovery."

Zoologist Kevin McCann, who came to U of G from McGill University and received a Tier 2 chair to

study ecological systems, calls it "a tremendous honour. This type of award early in one's career has the potential to open up research avenues and collaborations, both in Canada and internationally, that would otherwise be impossible."

McCann plans to develop an internationally recognized research program that he hopes will begin to unfold the role and function of biodiversity in ecosystems. Until now, most research and conservation efforts have been geared towards the preservation of specific species rather than understanding the role of the larger ecological systems and

*Continued on page 7*

## Moving Day for University of Guelph-Humber

*Building features specialized classrooms and labs*

**T**HE UNIVERSITY of Guelph-Humber moved Monday into its new home, a \$45-million building that features specialized classrooms and laboratories, a gallery, a learning commons and Internet café and an atrium with a "living wall."

"The University of Guelph-Humber is a new model for education in this province, and that uniqueness is reflected in the new facility," says David Trick, the new university's chief executive officer. "It's one of the most innovative

university buildings in North America, with state-of-the-art accommodations and spaces for students and faculty to learn from one another."

The only institution of its kind in Ontario, the University of Guelph-Humber is a joint venture between the University of Guelph and the Humber Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning. It enables students to earn a fully integrated university honours degree and a college diploma in only four years of study.

Almost 900 first- and second-year

*Continued on page 14*



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## Provost and Vice-President (Academic) University of Guelph



The University of Guelph has commenced a search for a new Provost and Vice-President (Academic). As the University's senior academic officer, the Provost plays a key role in maintaining and enhancing Guelph's standing as one of the best comprehensive universities in Canada. Guelph combines a high-quality, student-focused, residentially intensive milieu with a record of scholarly achievement that also ranks it among Canada's most research-intensive institutions. The University is committed to innovative programs, internationalism and interdisciplinarity, dynamic student/faculty interaction, and an integration of learning and research.

A Search Committee, chaired by President Alastair Summerlee, has begun consultations, and anticipates that a full Position Profile will be available by the end of September. Further information on the search can be found at [www.uoguelph.ca/info/vpsc](http://www.uoguelph.ca/info/vpsc). Requests for the Profile,

expressions of interest, or suggestions of suitable candidates should be submitted in confidence at any time to the address shown below. The Search Committee will begin consideration of candidates in October 2003, and is seeking a highly qualified individual who can take office no later than July 1, 2004.

The University of Guelph is committed to an employment equity program that includes special measures to achieve diversity among its faculty and staff. We therefore particularly encourage applications from qualified aboriginal Canadians, persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities and women.

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## Community Input Sought on VP (Academic) Position

Series of meetings scheduled for September with groups, individuals on campus

THE SEARCH COMMITTEE for the provost and vice-president (academic) is moving forward with its tasks, assisted in its work by Janet Wright and Associates, one of Canada's leading post-secondary education search firms. An advertisement announcing that the search is under way and that a position profile is in development has already begun to appear in a range of publications and on Web sites, providing a national and international reach for the search.

The search committee's current focus is to develop a position profile, which will include information about the position, the institution and the opportunities and challenges facing the provost and the University over the next several years. To assist with this and other search tasks, the committee is seeking input and advice from members of the University community, including all faculty, students and staff. The committee is interested in, among other things, the characteris-

tics and qualifications to be sought in candidates for the position in light of the opportunities and challenges ahead.

To ensure broad input and participation in the development of the position profile, a series of meetings has been scheduled in September with appropriate groups and individuals on campus. In addition, a public town hall meeting was held Sept. 9. The search committee also welcomes comments and advice via e-mail at [search@uoguelph.ca](mailto:search@uoguelph.ca).

## IN MEMORIAM

### WILLIAM HUGHES

An informal gathering will be held on campus Sept. 14 to remember and celebrate the life of retired philosophy professor Bill Hughes, who died Aug. 19 in New Denver, B.C. It begins at 2:30 p.m. in the Whippertree and will include music performed by family and friends at 3 p.m.

A graduate of the University of Toronto and the University of London, Prof. Hughes was a member of the Department of Philosophy from its inception in 1965 until his retirement in 1997. He served as chair of the department for about six years in the 1980s and sat on a number of administrative committees, including the Senate Committee on University Planning. A highly respected teacher and researcher, he pub-

lished a book in 1996 titled *Critical Thinking: An Introduction to the Basic Skills*.

Prof. Hughes is survived by his wife, Daphne; two daughters, Miranda and Anna; two sons, Jeremy and Jonathan; and eight grandchildren. Donations are being accepted in the Department of Philosophy to help create a memorial scholarship fund in his name.

### EDWARD GARRARD

Retired microbiology professor Eddie Garrard died June 23 in Guelph at the age of 97. A 1927 BSA graduate of OAC, he joined the college that same year as a professor of bacteriology and English. He spent the next 40 years at OAC, 29 of them as head of the Department of Bacteriology (renamed the Depart-

ment of Microbiology in 1958). Prof. Garrard, who also earned an M.Sc. from OAC in 1938, retired in 1967. Predeceased by his wife, Alice, and son, Hugh, he is survived by a daughter, Betty, six grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

### HARVEY DENNIE

Harvey Dennie, a stationary engineer in Physical Resources from 1973 to 1988, died Aug. 12 in Guelph at age 78. He was predeceased by his wife, Margaret.

### WINIFRED FLETCHER

Winifred Fletcher, a staff member in the U of G Library from 1964 to 1988, died July 8 in Kitchener at age 77. She is survived by her husband, Stanley; a son, Jeffrey; and two grandchildren.



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**TOP TEACHER TO  
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Don Woods, a chemical engineering professor at McMaster University, will be on campus Sept. 22 to 24 as 2003 Distinguished Visiting Teaching Professor. An expert in problem-based learning and process design, Woods has won numerous awards for his teaching and leadership, including a 3M Fellowship and the Lifetime Achievement Award from *Chemical Engineering Education*. While on campus, Woods will facilitate workshops for faculty and students on a variety of topics. He will also deliver a public lecture titled "The Double Cohort as a Facilitator of Change: Hidden Opportunities for Students and Faculty." Watch for further details on the University Web site or call Julia Beswick at Ext. 53880.

**HOMEcoming DINNER  
CELEBRATES ATHLETES**

U of G marks Homecoming Sept. 26 and 27, beginning with the annual Gryphon Club Hall of Fame Dinner Friday at 6:30 p.m. in the Athletics Centre. This year's inductees are former Gryphon athletes Stuart Miller (soccer), Avril Peaker (swimming), Steve Perkovic (hockey), Mike Shoemaker (football) and Bill Weber (football). Basketball official Ron Foxcroft will receive an Award of Merit, and the championship team recognition will go to the 1966/67 women's ice hockey team. For tickets to the dinner, call Ext. 56133. The annual homecoming football game kicks off Saturday at 2 p.m. at Alumni Stadium, with the Gryphons tackling the Queen's University Gaels.

**INTERSECTION CLOSED**

McGilvray Street will be closed at Gordon Street until the end of November to allow for the construction of an underground services tunnel extension from the front of the Food Science Building to a new distribution chamber that will service the Ontario Veterinary College. The campus community is encouraged to use alternative routes to reach affected sections of campus. Parking lots P25, adjacent to OVC, and P26, behind the Food Science Building, will be accessible via College Avenue and Smith Lane at the west end of McGillvray.

**LECTURE SERIES SET**

The College of Biological Science presents the annual Ann Oaks Lecture Series this month, featuring David Schindler, a Killam Memorial Professor of Ecology at the University of Alberta. On Sept. 29, he will give a general lecture on "Canada's Water Crisis in the 21st Century" at 5:30 p.m. in Room 1714 of the OVC Learning Centre. A pre-lecture reception begins at 5 p.m. On Sept. 30, Schindler will give a research lecture on "The Biogeochemistry of Pesticides in High-Altitude and High-Latitude Lakes" at 9 a.m. in Peter Clark Hall. Anyone wishing to attend either lecture is asked to RSVP to Ext. 53343.

# Neighbourhood Relations Co-ordinator Appointed

*Family relations grad will help students, landlords and city residents resolve issues*

**K**ATHRYN HOFER was braced for the calls. As U of G's newly appointed neighbourhood relations co-ordinator, she expected the arrival of students beginning on the Labour Day weekend might prompt a few telephone calls from area residents or from students themselves.

"It's been quiet," says Hofer, a 1998 Guelph graduate in family and social relations. "It wasn't the onslaught I was expecting."

Still, as more students moved into off-campus digs during Orientation Week, she expected the pace to pick up.

Hofer describes her newly created position as a link in anticipating and addressing issues that bring together — or sometimes push apart — various groups, including students, community and resident groups, the city and U of G.

Anticipation of the growth in student numbers this fall is what prompted Brenda Whiteside, associate vice-president (student affairs), to propose the position following a meeting last year with counterparts from other universities.

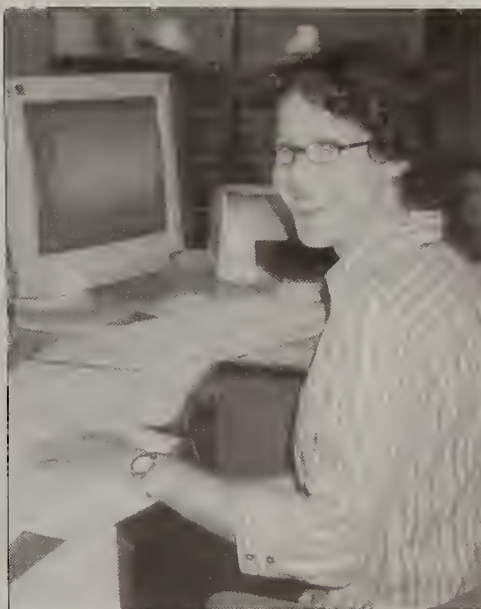
"The neighbourhood relations co-ordinator will represent U of G on neighbourhood issues," says Whiteside, who notes that a city staff person sat on the hiring committee. "I see the new position as a positive step in relations with the city."

Only a month into her new job, Hofer is still learning about the issues. Her discussions to date with groups in the old University area, in the growing community south of U of G and in the downtown area indicate that residents are perennially sensitive to the impact students have on property standards, parking and noise levels.

Anticipating those concerns, she sent letters to area residents last month with ideas and information about dealing with arriving students.

It's her job to help students, landlords and residents resolve issues directly or by pointing them to other agencies from the Central Student Association to the downtown legal clinic.

During Orientation Week, she spoke about tenant rights at an event held by OCUS (Off-Campus University Students). Her office will also hold workshops on key issues for returning students who are living off



Kathryn Hofer is U of G's liaison with area neighbourhoods.

PHOTO BY BARBARA CHANCE

campus for the first time. And she will be a team leader for Project Serve, a community volunteer day for students to be held Sept. 20.

"This fall, a big piece will be mediation," says Hofer, explaining that she will serve as a mediator to help resolve conflicts involving tenants and landlords. A former conflict resolution expert in Kitchener, she is also developing information materials such as a pamphlet on landlord-tenant rights.

"That's what I enjoy — being out and responding to concerns in the community," she says.

Hofer will track incidents and calls to begin compiling statistics and information about neighbourhood issues and to help in designing other programs. She's looking at other campuses for ideas, from mediation services to a peer helper system.

She'll also be watching the results of a pilot project to extend the Magic Bus program, a service that shuttles students back to campus from downtown after city buses have stopped running.

Hofer is involved in several area groups, including one that is working on a community planning pro-

cess for the old University and centennial neighbourhoods, as well as the Wellington & Guelph Housing Committee, which has been considering the city's lodging house bylaw.

She became interested in neighbourhood issues while completing her master's degree in social work with an emphasis in community development and social planning, particularly during a placement in community services with the United Way in Guelph.

While an undergraduate at U of G, she completed a practicum at Wyndham House, an independent living program for teens and young adults.

As a student, she lived for a year off campus in a house with four other students. "I didn't know that was against the lodging house bylaw," she says. She expects that providing that kind of information will help smooth relations between students and the community.

What's her single best piece of advice for students and residents as the new school year begins? "A friendly hello and getting to know each other," she says.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

## Rozanski Hall Officially Opens

**U** OF G OFFICIALLY opened Rozanski Hall Sept. 5. The 52,000-square-foot classroom complex named for Mordechai Rozanski, Guelph's longest-serving president, can accommodate 1,530 students in lecture halls ranging in size from 30 to 600 seats.

"This is a big day for the University of Guelph," said president Alastair Summerlee. "Rozanski Hall, designed to cater to a learner-

centred environment, will benefit our students and support our faculty for years to come."

The \$16-million building was funded by the Ontario SuperBuild program and donations to the University's fundraising campaign. The official opening included a presentation on SuperBuild projects using the state-of-the-art technology that is a key feature of Rozanski Hall.

In preparation for teaching in the

facility, faculty have had training to use the new technology. During this first week of classes, Teaching Support Services staff are on hand to provide additional assistance.

Designed by Robbie/Young & Wright Architects, Rozanski Hall recognizes the historical importance and architectural heritage of surrounding buildings and includes materials salvaged from the beef barn that once stood on the site.

## PEOPLE

### CONTRIBUTIONS TO ENGINEERING TEACHING, RESEARCH RECOGNIZED

Prof. Ralph Brown, Engineering, is the 2003 recipient of the CSAE/SCGR John Clark Award for his contributions to research and teaching in the area of energy and processing systems. Brown's major research area, supported by the Ontario Corn Producers' Association, is concerned with improving corn quality and developing a viable food-grade corn industry in Ontario. He has been a faculty member at Guelph since 1988.

### BOOK WINS NATIONAL PRIZE

Profs. Tony Winson and Belinda Leach, Sociology and Anthropology, received the 2003 John Porter Memorial Book Prize from the Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association (CSAA) for *Contingent Labour, Disrupted Lives: Labour and Community in the New Rural Economy*. The book examines the effects of contemporary corporate strategies such as plant closures and downsizing on manufacturing-dependent rural communities in Canada. Winson and Leach will give the John Porter Award Lecture at the CSAA's annual meeting in Winnipeg next June.

### FOOD SCIENTIST HONOURED FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

The Central Student Association presented its annual Teaching Excellence Award this summer to Massimo Marcone, a technician and adjunct professor in the Department of Food Science. Presented at the Community Barbecue, the award recognizes a U of G instructor who demonstrates profound dedication to undergraduates and to post-secondary education. Marcone was cited for his accessible, innovative and attentive teaching style and for his consistent dedication to making the learning process interesting for all students.

### POST-DOCTORAL AWARD SUPPORTS GRAD'S WORK ON BREAST CANCER

Alison Allan, a 2002 PhD graduate of Guelph's biomedical sciences program, is the 2003/2004 recipient of the National Research Council's prestigious H.L. Holmes Award for Post-Doctoral Studies. Allan, who also earned a B.Sc. in molecular biology and genetics from Guelph, will receive \$181,400 for breast cancer research. She is currently a post-doctoral researcher at the London Regional Cancer Centre.

### CBS PROF GIVES TALKS IN AUSTRALIA, COLORADO

Prof. Mark Baker, Molecular Biology and Genetics, was an invited speaker at the International Congress of Genetics in Melbourne, Australia, in July. One of only nine Canadians among the 280 speakers at the event, he discussed "Mechanisms Associated With Crossover Resolution During Homologous Recombination in Mammalian Cells." Baker gave a similar presentation at the FASEB Summer Research Conference in Colorado.

# NSERC Grant Will Advance Work in Subatomic Physics

*Gamma-ray spectrometer will be unique internationally*

**A** U OF G PHYSICIST and collaborators across Canada have received \$8 million from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council to build a sophisticated new "microscope" that will allow them to look deeply into the heart of the atom.

Prof. Carl Svensson is leading the team of Canadian scientists who will construct a gamma-ray spectrometer at TRIUMF, Canada's national laboratory for particle and nuclear physics in Vancouver. Called TIGRESS (TRIUMF-ISAC gamma-ray escape suppressed spectrometer), the device is named for the accelerator it will be connected to — the isotope separator and accelerator (ISAC). ISAC produces world-record intensity rare ion beams, and a new ISAC-II facility currently under construction at TRIUMF will increase the range and energy of accelerated radioactive beams available for fundamental physics experiments.

"TIGRESS will measure the high-frequency light emitted when atomic nuclei produced by ISAC make transitions from one quantum energy level to another," says Svensson, whose work in subatomic physics is helping transform thinking and research in his field.

"By studying this light, you learn about the inner workings of the atomic nucleus," he says.

Many of the nuclear reactions involved in the creation of the chemical elements during the explosions of stars, for example, have never been measured because the reacting nuclei were too short-lived for experiments to be performed. TIGRESS and ISAC will allow researchers to directly study the properties of many of the nuclei involved in these reactions for the first time, Svensson says.

"This spectrometer will be unique internationally, and when you combine it with the new facilities at TRIUMF, we will have the premier radioactive ion beam centre in the world right here in Canada," he says. "We have gone to great lengths with TIGRESS to design an extremely versatile device that will allow us to explore a broad range of open questions in subatomic physics."

The questions that he and researchers from TRIUMF and five other universities — Laval, McMaster, Montreal, Simon Fraser and Toronto — plan to investigate include how the atomic nucleus responds to the stresses of rapid rotation, the detailed pathways by which the chemical

elements are synthesized in explosive astrophysical events, the interactions of elementary particles, and the origin of imbalance between matter and anti-matter in the universe. New gamma-ray detector technologies developed for TIGRESS are also likely to find broader applications in society, particularly in fields such as diagnostic nuclear medicine.

The \$8-million NSERC equipment grant will be allocated over six years.

"I am delighted that with this award, Carl and his colleagues have been able to elevate Canada's efforts in subatomic physics to a world-stature level of greatness," says Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research). "Without NSERC's commitment, it simply would not have been possible. It's an exciting time for Carl and the entire Physics Department."

Svensson, who joined the University in 2001, is the recipient of a Polanyi Prize and a Premier's Research Excellence Award. His work is also supported by the Canada Foundation for Innovation, the Ontario Innovation Trust and the Research Corporation.

BY LORI BONA HUNT

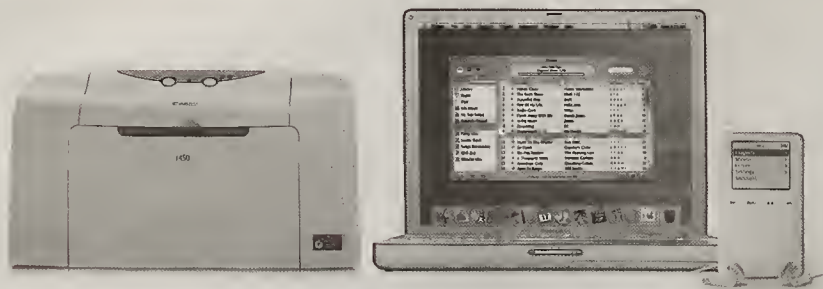


## It's a Toss-up

These first-year students were among more than 1,000 who turned out on Johnston Green Sept. 1 to try to beat the Guinness world record for mass juggling. In recent years, tackling a Guinness record has become a traditional part of orientation week activities. This year, the attempt fell short, but organizers say what's most important is that so many students came out to participate and have fun.

PHOTO BY BARBARA CHANCE

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# PhD Student Receives Trudeau Scholarship

Funding supports research on how disposal of nuclear fuel wastes affects First Nations

**G**EOGRAPHY PhD candidate Anna Stanley is one of the first 12 doctoral students in Canada to receive a Trudeau Scholarship from the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation. The award provides \$35,000 a year for four years, with an additional \$15,000 available for travel expenses. The funding will support her research on how the disposal of nuclear fuel wastes affects First Nations in Canada.

"I feel really honoured to get a scholarship that supports critical thinking and research that aim to change society for the better," says Stanley, who also completed a BA in international development at Guelph. "I think nuclear fuel waste is a problem that needs to have a more inclusive management process."

The Trudeau Scholars Program, launched this year, supports doctoral candidates who are pursuing research in one or more of the foundation themes: human rights and social justice, responsible citizenship, Canada and the world, and humans and their natural environment. Scholar nominees are assessed on their academic achievement, ability to engage in exchange with other researchers and scholars, and intention to work and contribute to public dialogue in one of the foundation themes.

"Much of Canada's success as a nation is owed to our past leaders and innovative thinkers who challenged conventional approaches to social issues," says Industry Minister Allan Rock. "This country's future will be shaped by the next generation of intellectual talent, and these Trudeau Scholars are explorers of this uncharted territory."

Stanley's research examines the extent to which Canada's official representation of the nuclear waste management problem excludes the experiences, perceptions and judgments of the First Nations.

"The goal of my research is to in-



Geography PhD candidate Anna Stanley wants to increase awareness of the ways nuclear waste decisions can exclude certain groups of people from determining their own futures. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

crease awareness of the ways nuclear waste decisions can exclude certain groups of people from determining their own realities and futures," she says. "Policies should challenge and stretch the environmental management framework and improve social justice."

Prof. Richard Kuhn, chair of the Department of Geography and Stanley's adviser, says her award is well-deserved. "She's an outstanding student and completely committed to the notions of social justice and First Nations in Canada."

The Trudeau Foundation was es-

tablished in 2002 to honour the late prime minister by encouraging public debate and exceptional research in issues of public policy.

"We were delighted with the outstanding calibre of the nominees," says foundation president Stephen Toope. "The 12 Trudeau Scholars are distinguished by their extraordinary creativity, provocative thinking and a true commitment to engaging the public in shaping society in Canada and around the world. They are a fitting living legacy to our former prime minister."

BY RACHELLE COOPER

# SARS Committee Plans Review Across Campus

Goal is to establish new crisis-preparedness plan

**S**UPPOSE A SARS-LIKE disease outbreak were to sweep through your unit or department. Would you be able to carry on business as usual, or would illnesses or quarantine threaten to cripple your operations?

A cross-campus review beginning this fall will yield a new crisis-preparedness plan designed to ensure continued functioning of units and departments if illness or quarantine caused by a disease were to sideline enough people or even one or two key individuals, says Brenda Whiteside, associate vice-president (student affairs).

The new plan, to be completed by next spring, will become part of the University's existing comprehensive crisis plan managed by Security Services. "During the fall, we'll be reviewing critical functions, who does them, who's the backup and whether they can continue off-site," says Whiteside.

The review will be conducted by U of G's SARS advisory committee, which was established early this year during the outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome. With SARS now under control, that group has broadened its mandate to review existing policies and procedures to ensure they are adequate to deal with an outbreak of a communicable disease should one hit the campus.

Although there is a process in place for closing the University, few people had considered the possible effects of a significant quarantine or even how to ensure that key individuals remained isolated from

front-line employees handling suspected SARS cases, says Whiteside.

The review will encourage units to consider how they would continue operations, particularly under unexpected outbreaks of yet-unrecognized diseases, she says. "We're not focusing on an actual disease; we're focusing on what happens if something like SARS occurs."

She notes that the SARS crisis has prompted at least two other Ontario universities to review policies and procedures and to issue crisis response directives.

Chaired by Whiteside, the crisis planning committee includes Nancy Sullivan, vice-president (finance and administration); Prof. Jill McCutcheon, acting associate vice-president (academic); Heather Lane Vetere, director of Student Housing Services; Chuck Cunningham, director of Communications and Public Affairs; Vicki Hodgkinson, executive assistant to the president; Prof. Joan Norris, assistant dean, Graduate Program Services; Prof. Anthony Clarke, assistant vice-president (academic); Lynne Mitchell, study-abroad manager in the Centre for International Programs; Lynda Davenport, director of Student Health Services; Vic Reimer, assistant vice-president (human resources); Gisele Macneil, manager of Occupational Health Services; Mary Haggarty, international admissions co-ordinator in Admission Services; and Peggy Nagle, manager of English-language programs in the Office of Open Learning.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

## UNIVERSITY of GUELPH

I would like to thank all students, faculty, staff and alumni who contributed to Orientation Week 2003. The cohesiveness of the entire University community is demonstrated by the time and effort that went into this year's Orientation Week.

When students first set foot on our campus and their belongings are whisked off to their rooms and they're immediately welcomed by hundreds of Orientation Volunteers, they become instantly aware that the University of Guelph is special. The caring, supportive atmosphere and the school spirit demonstrated during the first week of September set the tone for a great university experience.

Thanks to everyone who took part in welcoming new students and their families to our community.

Sincerely,

Alastair Summerlee  
President



# Top Graduates Honoured

**U**OF G'S TOP graduating students were honoured during summer convocation. The Winegard Medal, Guelph's most prestigious undergraduate convocation honour, went to Sally Murdock, a mathematics major who came to Guelph as a President's Scholar in 1999. Named for former U of G president Bill Winegard, the medal recognizes academic achievement and contributions to University and community life.

Murdock, the top math student in her year throughout her University career, re-created and served as president of the Mathematics and Statistics Club, was a member of the Student Budget Advisory Group and served on the Judicial Committee. She was nominated for a Rhodes Scholarship and is now continuing

her studies at the University of Waterloo with a post-graduate scholarship from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council.

The Forster Medal, U of G's top convocation award for graduate students, was awarded to philosophy major Giorgio Baruchello. Named for late U of G president Donald Forster, the medal recognizes academic achievement, motivation, leadership and citizenship.

Baruchello, a native of Italy, came to U of G for doctoral studies in 1999. He specializes in ethics and social and political philosophy and is the author of some 15 articles that have been published or accepted by peer-reviewed journals in English, Italian and Icelandic. He served as president of the Philosophy Graduate Student Association and has been

appointed an adjunct lecturer in the Faculty of Law and Social Science at the University of Akureyri, Iceland.

U of G also presented three Governor General's Medals at summer convocation. The gold medal recognizes outstanding academic achievement at the graduate level, the silver medal goes to the undergraduate student graduating with the highest marks, and the bronze medal is awarded to the student earning top marks in OAC's associate diploma programs in agriculture and horticulture.

The 2003 gold medallist is William Miners of the College of Physical and Engineering Science. Andrew Perrin of the College of Biological Science received the silver medal, and the bronze medal went to diploma student Joel Van Gurp.

# Summer a Busy Time for Construction on Campus

Many building, renovation projects reflect preparations for growth in student enrolment

FROM COFFEE BARS to reinforcing bars, numerous construction and renovation projects continued apace on campus over the summer. Many projects reflect preparations for anticipated higher service demands as Guelph's share of the double cohort of graduating high school students descends on campus, says Chris Pickard, director of planning, engineering and construction in Physical Resources.

Other projects on his department's books have been part of ongoing maintenance and construction work required to keep Guelph's facilities and infrastructure current. Here's a rundown:

By the end of August, workers were installing state-of-the-art audiovisual equipment inside Rozanski Hall, U of G's new classroom complex. The building has already played host to several functions — even to students writing a set of summer exams — and was ready for occupancy when classes started Monday. Final touches inside and out will be completed in early fall.

Nearby, construction continues on a project to convert the Bullring into a new coffee pub to be operated by the Central Student Association.

Work to date on one of the University's oldest buildings — the former livestock judging pavilion — has included electrical and plumbing upgrades, improvements to washrooms and construction of a barrier-free ramp. It's expected the coffee pub will open for business in October.

Over in the U of G Library, the map cabinets have been relocated to the basement, freeing up space to accommodate more computer terminals and seating, to be installed by the middle of September (see accompanying story). On the other side of the main floor, the Learning Commons has also been expanded to accommodate three new counsellors and more space for peer helpers.

The third floor of the library offers a good vantage point to view progress on the science complex behind the Chemistry and Microbiology Building. Pickard says work is on schedule for the planned opening of Phase I in fall 2004 (see accompanying story).

Across campus, the new atrium, dining room and expanded teaching kitchen in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management are nearly complete. This phase of the

project is scheduled to open this week, with a multi-purpose room to open later in September.

In the University Centre, the third-floor lobby of Registrarial Services has been remodelled, including installation of a new service desk. New counselling offices have been added, as well as an exam/interview area for the Centre for Students With Disabilities and Co-operative Education Services, to be completed by mid-semester.

Meanwhile, on the fourth floor of the UC, Physical Resources will receive bids this fall for renovation work on the space now occupied by the Whippitree and Hospitality Services. It will be converted into new office space that will accommodate Hospitality Services and three divisions of the Office of Research: Research Financial Services, Research Services and Research Communications. These three divisions are currently housed in the Reynolds Building. The space vacated by the Office of Research in Reynolds will provide much-needed space for the Department of Computing and Information Science, which already occupies other floors in the building.

Downstairs in the UC, this summer saw completion of the final

phase of a five-year facelift to Centre Six. The north end of the food court has been remodelled to add an extra cash register and several new outlets, including Taco Bell, Mom's Kitchen and the Grill House. In addition, the Wokathon has been expanded.

New coffee outlets have been installed in the library and in the revamped Gryphs Pro Shop.

In campus residences, a number of single and double rooms in Johnston Hall, Mills Hall and South Residence were renovated to add about 400 beds across campus.

Here are some other projects under way this summer:

- Work continues on a project begun in summer 2002 to upgrade wiring and infrastructure in most campus buildings for U of G's new integrated communications network. About 70-per-cent complete — including this summer's work throughout South Residence — the project will be finished in about a year.
- Fire alarm systems equipped with bells and strobe lights were installed in the library, the MacKinnon Building and the Crop Science Building to replace aged systems (similar upgrades occurred earlier in the Animal Sci-

ence and Nutrition Building and the Macdonald Institute). Physical Resources plans to upgrade old alarm systems across campus, including some systems dating back at least 30 years.

- Outside lighting upgrades began this summer on the walkway beside South Residence. New lighting has also been installed along Reynolds Walk in front of the Crop Science Building and will be installed in front of the Chemistry and Microbiology Building.

• Roof repairs were done on 12 buildings around campus. Alumni House got a facelift, including new exterior paint.

Also notable among the nearly 250 projects on the books for Physical Resources into the fall:

- planning for the second phase of the science complex, Phase I of the OVC redevelopment and next summer's planned start of the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario west of Gordon Street;
- extending the underground utility tunnel north of the Food Science Building toward OVC;
- enhancing barrier-free aspects of the washroom facilities in the MacKinnon Building; and
- erecting handrails for outdoor stairways.



Over the summer, construction work progressed steadily on the first phase of the new science complex, which is on schedule for completion in fall 2004.

## Full Speed Ahead on Complex

CONSTRUCTION WORK on Phase I of the new science complex is continuing at full speed, says Angelo Gismondi, SuperBuild senior project manager. As of the end of August, subsurface concrete work was substantially completed, as were most of the underground services connecting the site, he says.

On the eastern section of the complex adjacent to the McLaughlin Library, work on both the third- and fourth-floor concrete slabs is slated for completion by the end of September. On the western section adjacent to Gordon Street, ground-floor columns and walls are scheduled to be finished this month, as is the first-floor concrete. In the central

section of the complex, work on the third-floor concrete slab is expected to be done later this month.

In addition, service tunnel construction is very close to completion, and it's anticipated that the concrete work and backfilling will be finished by the end of September.

Gismondi adds that a number of ancillary projects have been completed to reduce the impact of construction activities on the University's operation. These include:

- expanding the Chemistry and Microbiology Building loading dock and establishing a centralized shipping and receiving office in the building, complete with internal delivery truck. The loading

dock is now serving all departments while the MacNaughton dock is out of commission;

- installing exterior lights at the Reynolds Building to enhance safety and security;
- adding a new ramp at the Reynolds Building to improve accessibility;
- installing a new card access door and delivery ramp at the McLaughlin Library; and
- building a walkway and stairs from OVC to Gordon Street to enhance pedestrian circulation around the construction company's parking and materials storage lot on OVC grounds.

## Library Extends Hours, Opens Coffee Bar, Adds Services

New wireless network will 'unchain' students from desks

McLAUGHLIN LIBRARY is catering to students' needs by opening a coffee bar, extending its hours and offering new services, including a wireless network, a laptop loan program and a self-checkout station.

"Because the library is so central to the life of a university student, we want to provide U of G students with comforts and services that will help make their learning experience enjoyable," says chief librarian Michael Ridley.

Students can now also buy food, beverages and stationery supplies out of vending machines on the first floor of the library.

The food and beverage policy in the library has changed to allow people to eat and drink in all public and study locations except the archival and special collections section in the lower level, says Ridley.

"We recognize that students spend many hours in the library and would enjoy an occasional beverage or snack while studying or doing group work without the inconvenience of leaving the building."

With new expanded hours, McLaughlin is now open from 7 a.m. to 2 a.m. seven days a week. The Campus Safe Walk program will add a station in the library to serve stu-

dents who are working late. Students can arrange a walk by calling Ext. 53200 or pressing the Safe Walk button on campus payphones.

A new wireless network in McLaughlin allows students to access the library home page, including book and periodical information, from anywhere in the building. Instead of waiting in line to use a computer terminal for resource searches, students with the appropriate hardware can now sit anywhere in the library to conduct research. For more students to take advantage of the new system, 100 laptop computers will be made available for student use in the library.

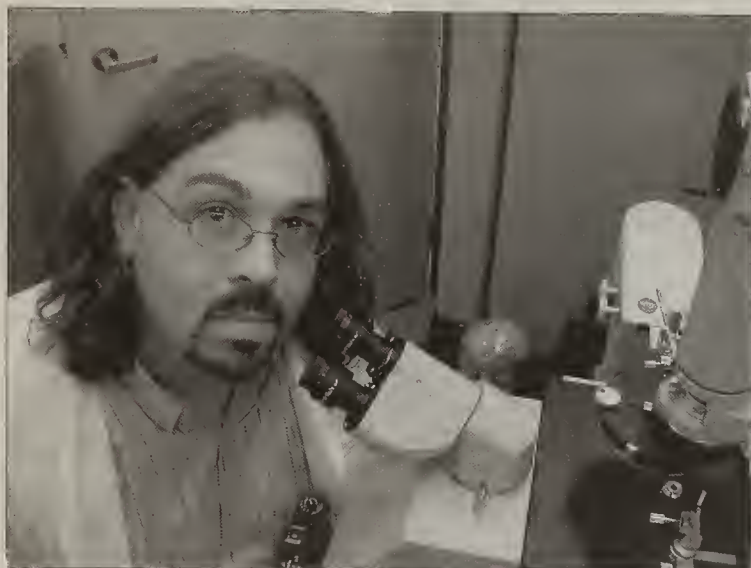
The new wireless fidelity system will "unchain our students from desks and study carrels," says George Loney, library systems manager. "Students with laptops loaded with the appropriate LAN card will be able to connect anywhere in the library — sitting on the floor, working in group study rooms. It gives them freedom, flexibility and mobility."

Library users will also be able to check out their own books using a new self-charge circulation unit later this fall.

BY RACHELLE COOPER

# A Helping Hand for the Heart

Scientists work on groundbreaking solution that could prevent muscular dysfunctions



Prof. Glen Pyle is studying two proteins that could hold the key to preventing heart failure and other muscular afflictions.

PHOTO BY PAULA BIALSKI

**R**EVOLUTIONARY new research could keep hearts healthy and prevent muscle failures, says Prof. Glen Pyle, Biomedical Sciences. He's studying the causes of heart failure and other muscular dysfunctions and is now working with an international team of scientists to find a way to prevent these afflictions.

Pyle suspects the culprits behind these problems are two key proteins called Cap-Z and protein kinase C (PKC).

"PKC has both good and bad functions," he says, "so the process that could help prevent problems such as heart failure is quite complicated."

Pyle, who received a 2003 Young Investigator Award from the Canadian Cardiovascular Society, is working with his collaborators on a groundbreaking solution that could prevent a variety of muscular dysfunctions—and could be as easy as a shot in the arm. They're trying to develop a type of protein vaccine that may prevent muscles from failing.

Animals will be the first to benefit from this research, but Pyle thinks there may be human applications in five to 10 years.

Heart failure can be caused by a variety of conditions, including high blood pressure, diabetes and viral infections. At first, the heart increases its activity to cope with the increased demand imposed by these conditions. But the heart is soon overwhelmed by the added workload and falls into a vicious cycle of failure.

A key part of this downward spiral is the activation of PKC. Pyle and his colleagues at Washington University and the universities of Illinois and Minnesota had previously discovered that Cap-Z is crucial for turning on PKC inside heart muscle cells.

For the current research, the team used transgenic mice to learn how different muscle cell proteins such as PKC and Cap-Z are involved

in dysfunction. By breeding mice that produce lower levels of Cap-Z in their hearts, Pyle found that Cap-Z binds to PKC, one of the steps towards activating PKC and turning off muscle cells in the heart.

Putting a stop to PKC seems like the obvious solution, but it isn't that simple, he says. The protein has other essential functions in the body, including prenatal heart development and helping muscles during exercise. To complicate matters even further, there are actually a dozen different types of PKC throughout the body.

Pyle believes the key to preventing heart failure and muscle dysfunction is to inhibit PKC from being activated only in the muscle sections that are causing problems.

So the researchers will try to design a peptide (a protein fragment) that can bind to Cap-Z and stop PKC from connecting to it. Pyle says this peptide "vaccine" could be administered in only the particular ar-

eas of muscle experiencing problems, or it could be tagged with a signal molecule that will deliver it only to the damaged muscle.

"The goal for us is to figure out how Cap-Z activates PKC, then design a peptide within the next two years for use in animals," he says. "We hope to have a form of vaccine for humans in five to 10 years."

Prof. Jonathan LaMarre, Biomedical Sciences, and researchers from the University of Illinois (Chicago) and San Diego State University were also involved in this research.

In addition to Pyle's Young Investigator Award, support for this work has come from the Canada Foundation for Innovation, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the International Society for Heart Research Richard J. Bing Award.

BY HILARY EDMONDSON  
SPARK PROGRAM

# CFI Invests \$1.4 Million in Next Generation

Eleven faculty in nine departments to benefit

**G**UELPH RECEIVED more than \$1.4 million from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) this summer to support innovative projects led by the next generation of outstanding researchers.

Eleven U of G professors will benefit from the investment from CFI's "New Opportunities" fund, which is designed to help launch the careers of new and talented faculty and help institutions recruit exceptional scholars in priority areas.

"I'm absolutely ecstatic," says engineering professor Michele Oliver, who received \$112,355 for equipment to study repetitive strain injuries and joystick dynamics and design. Until now, Oliver, who joined U of G in 2001, has had to rent equipment at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto or travel to New Brunswick to do much of her work. "This will make a huge difference to me and to the biomechanics lab I share with (faculty colleague) John Runciman. We will now have a state-of-the-art facility."

Plant agriculture professor Julie Dionne, who also joined the University in 2001, plans to use the \$125,017 she received from CFI to equip a new turfgrass science/management laboratory. She hopes to increase the tolerance of turfgrass systems to stresses such as freezing temperatures, disease and insects, and reduce inputs of pesticide, irrigation and fertilizer.

Prof. Kathryn Preuss, a member of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry since 2002, will use her \$159,655 to buy an electron paramagnetic resonance spectrometer with low-temperature capabilities. She hopes to develop a rational synthetic design for single-molecule magnets, which can potentially be used in ultra-high-density digital data storage.

Prof. Dominique Bureau, who

was appointed to the Department of Animal and Poultry Science faculty in 2001, will use his \$127,480 for improvements at U of G's Fish Nutrition Research Laboratory, the oldest and best known of its kind in Canada.

"The funding of this CFI infrastructure project is great news," says Bureau, who is working to develop a more comprehensive understanding of fish nutrient use. "It will allow the renovation of 30-year-old facilities that have set the standards for fish nutrition research in the world and allow U of G researchers to make a meaningful contribution to the field for the next 30 years."

Other U of G "New Opportunities" recipients are:

- Milena Corredig, Food Science, \$146,454 for research on macromolecular assemblies in creative, novel and improved food products.
- John Dawson, Chemistry and Biochemistry, \$81,794 to buy equipment for actin purification and biochemical analysis stations.
- Niel Karrow, Animal and Poultry Science, \$121,340 for his work on the genetics of disease resistance.
- John Lumsden, Pathobiology, \$151,122 to study innate immunity and acute phase response in salmonid fish.
- Baohong Meng, Microbiology, \$124,373 for an integrated facility to study the biology and molecular biology of plant viruses and virus diagnosis.
- Glen Pyle, Biomedical Sciences, \$125,336 to investigate muscle function and intracellular signalling transduction.
- Wanhong Yang, Geography, \$143,822 for a GIS modelling laboratory for agricultural conservation management.

BY LORI BONA HUNT

# New CRCs Bring Guelph's Total to 18

Continued from page 1

the potential for conserving them, he says.

"Our lab is interested in understanding these important large-scale ecological issues—the role of species, their interconnections and the way they integrate with the abiotic world to produce a stable functioning system."

Engineering professor Edward McBean, who joined the University this summer, has received a Tier 1 chair to study water supply security and risk management. McBean was formerly a vice-president with Conestoga-Rovers & Associates, an international comprehensive engineering and environmental consulting firm. He has also been on faculty at the University of Waterloo and

taught at universities in California.

McBean will develop cutting-edge detection methods that will indicate when a water system's safety is in jeopardy, including through environmental factors, sabotage, water terrorism, threats and vandalism. He will focus on improving the safety and sustainability of water supplies.

The work will provide new insights into the feasibility of water protection and what steps will be most effective in managing the risk.

James France, currently a professor in the School of Agriculture, Policy and Development at the University of Reading in England, has been awarded a Tier 1 chair to establish a Centre for Nutritional Modelling in Animal Production

Systems. He will join the University at the end of September.

"I am delighted to be coming to Guelph," he says. "It's a great place to be. The Department of Animal and Poultry Science is among the biggest and best in the world. There is no better place to attempt to create a world-class centre."

France plans to develop methods and software to predict and manage prudent nutrient use on farms to minimize potential land, water and air pollution. His centre will initially house seven faculty and four research associates.

On completion, it will include another eight research associates and post-doctoral researchers. It will also connect biologists from across Can-

ada and the world.

U of G botany professor John Klironomos received a Tier 2 chair to establish an advanced soil ecology analysis lab and training centre. Scientists there will explore the biology and ecology of soil organisms, as well as the interactions and feedbacks between below-ground and above-ground communities and ecosystems.

"I feel honoured being chosen as a CRC," says Klironomos. "It will provide me with a unique opportunity to enhance my research program and to interact with high-quality students and post-doc researchers."

BY LORI BONA HUNT

# Fruit Virus Screening Program 'Making a Difference'

Laboratory Services hopes fresh funding will help wipe out plum pox virus in southern Ontario

SINCE THE DETECTION three years ago of a devastating viral disease that has hobbled fruit farmers and nursery growers across a wide swath of the Niagara Peninsula, a screening program run by U of G scientists is still turning up evidence of the plum pox virus in Niagara peaches and other stone fruit crops.

A team of staff and summer students in Laboratory Services that has screened hundreds of thousands of samples since that first case hopes that a review of the plum pox virus program due this fall will convince Ottawa to release fresh funding for the program—and, ultimately, lead to the eradication of the virus in southern Ontario.

Todd Marrow, quality manager for Lab Services and manager of the plum pox virus screening program, says his unit got involved shortly after the virus was first detected in 2000 in a single orchard near Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Since then, the area included under the Niagara quarantine zone has expanded throughout much of the fruit belt below the Niagara Escarpment from the Niagara River to Grimsby.

The screening program at Guelph has also grown, from about 74,000 tests initially to about 350,000 samples this year.

"Everything flows through here," says Marrow, who employed close to 50 undergraduate students this summer under a joint federal-provincial program intended to wipe out the disease.

Plum pox virus, also called sharka, affects stone fruits such as peaches, apricots, plums and nectarines. Sales of tender fruit are worth about \$50 million a year in Ontario, with about 85 per cent of those sales generated in the Niagara Peninsula, says Adrian Huisman, manager of the Tender Fruit Marketing Board based in St. Catharines.

The disease doesn't kill affected trees, but it can weaken them. Trees hit by the disease produce less fruit, and the fruit itself is generally tasteless and low in sugar. (The latter point is debatable: recent blind taste tests showed some consumers found



Students Sharon-anne Graham, left, and Kristin Caria prepare leaf samples for viral testing.  
PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

the affected fruit sweeter).

The virus causes blemishes on leaves and fruit, including telltale light-coloured spots or halos on peaches and internal browning of plums and apricots.

Although the fruit poses no health hazard, consumers are loath to buy bland, blemished produce.

The virus spreads through grafting of infected budwood (aphids also carry the virus for short distances). No treatment exists to combat the disease. Infected trees must be destroyed and replaced with less susceptible varieties or other crops.

"Some orchards have been wiped out as a result," says Marrow. "It's sad to see the situation these farmers are put in. Their livelihoods are put at risk."

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) decides whether to destroy individual trees or blocks of trees based on results of the sampling program conducted at Lab Services. The federal agency also tests about 80,000 of its own samples each year.

Lab Services carries out the testing under contract to Agricorn, an agency of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food in Guelph. Throughout the growing season, Agricorn collects leaves from orchards and sends them daily to Lab Services.

Here, testing involves punching out disks from batches of leaves, weighing and processing the samples, then adding reagents and antibodies designed to help detect the virus.

Plum pox virus is detected in less than one per cent of the samples. Those samples are sent to the CFIA's Centre for Plant Health in British Columbia for confirmatory tests.

This summer, Lab Services hired 47 undergraduate students from across all six U of G colleges to work with five staff technicians in several laboratories, plus a boardroom commandeered as a sample prep room.

"I've never worked in a lab before," says student Sharon-anne Graham, who's just beginning her fourth year in human kinetics. Referring to the goal of eradicating plum pox virus, she adds: "We're making a difference."

Fourth-year B.Sc. student Kristin Caria, who sees this year's summer job as a first step toward a possible research career, says: "The big thing is teamwork. It's a great job to meet people."

Lead technician Steve Grotier began a summer job with the program while completing his B.Sc.(Agr.), then was hired full time after graduation in 2002. "It looked good on my résumé to work here," he says.

Technician and U of G science graduate Michael Waud is beginning a master's program in microbiology this fall. He plans to study the use of transgenics to help plants resist plum pox virus, a project inspired by his work with Lab Services.

Blake Ferguson, program specialist with the CFIA's Ontario Plant Program Network in London, lauds the Lab Services program. "It's been an excellent lab to deal with. It has great capacity."

As of the end of 2002, almost 40,000 trees had been removed from the quarantine zone, including about 15,000 last year. Ferguson says about the same number will be removed next spring based on this year's testing.

Despite those numbers, he estimates that eradication of the virus will take another decade, including an obligatory three years without any positive samples. Most of the original area of the Niagara Peninsula hit by plum pox remains under quarantine, meaning that nurseries are not allowed to use budwood from the re-

gion for grafting new trees.

Outside that quarantine zone, the virus has also been detected in Stoney Creek and Fonthill and in two isolated areas in Kent and Norfolk counties. (The disease has since been found in two locations in Nova Scotia.)

Ferguson says the virus is still being found in new areas within the quarantine zone, although that apparently has less to do with the virus and more with the detection program. "None of the increase in sample numbers is due to spread of the virus. It's due to our finding new areas that were already infected."

He attributes most of the increase in the number of samples arriving at Guelph to a change in sampling methods intended to improve accuracy of detection.

With the initial three years' worth of federal funding for the program now exhausted, Ottawa will review the screening program this fall based on a report being written by the CFIA.

"We don't know whether more funding is to be provided," says Ferguson. Even if the program were not renewed, however, managing the disease would still require lab testing, he adds.

Marrow says it's important to eradicate the disease not just to preserve Niagara fruit growers' livelihood, but also to restore nursery markets elsewhere in Canada and in the United States. "There's now no transport of budwood outside the quarantine zone."

Although the plum pox virus has been found in Pennsylvania, growers there have adopted more aggressive practices to contain it, including uprooting every tree within half a kilometre of infected individuals. Adopting that approach in the Niagara Peninsula might have wiped out the grower industry, Ferguson says.

Although some Niagara orchards were devastated by plum pox virus, many farmers have since planted disease-free trees or alternative crops, notably grapes, he says. "Generally, the industry is still fairly viable."

BY ANDREW VOWLES

## Dog-Cooling Device Captures National Prize

Low-tech design aims to keep demining dogs cool in world's hot spots

A U of G biological engineering student and a recent graduate received national recognition this summer for designing a tool to aid dogs that are searching for lost land mines in hot climates.

Jason Pearman and Dan McEwen developed the dog-cooling device, which is worn like a collar and a vest and dissipates heat from two critical areas of a dog's body. The invention won second place in the Canadian Appropriate Mine Action Technologies Competition in July.

"It's pretty exciting," says Pearman, who shares the \$2,500 cash

prize. "It feels good to be successful in a competition where you're up against schools with much larger programs."

Sponsored by Mines Action Canada and Engineers Without Borders, the annual contest gives engineering students across the country an opportunity to make a difference to people working in land mine-affected communities.

Pearman, now in his final year at Guelph, says he and McEwen chose their project because "dogs have proven invaluable in demining operations. They are the first tool for

detection because their sense of smell for explosives is so sensitive. Operations can clear mines three to four times faster when they're working with dogs."

But, he adds, the animals are often working in very hot and humid regions of the world. "The heat starts to get to them after only a few hours."

The device created by Pearman and McEwen, who graduated in June, relies on polyacrylamide crystals, which retain several times their own mass in water. The crystals are placed in pouches inside a collar and

a vest, which are then soaked in water. The heat generated by the dog warms the absorbed water in the crystals and causes it to evaporate, acting like an external sweating device. The vest is made of breathable material and allows the dog to move shoulders and front legs.

"It's a very subtle design," says Pearman. "The whole point of the competition is to come up with technology that is low-tech and simple and can be implemented by people working in faraway countries with relative ease."

Indeed, the competition's judges

commended the pair for the project's sensible and rational design. They also called the invention "an insightful and unique approach to a problem that few even considered."

Pearman says he and McEwen didn't set out to do anything revolutionary when they entered the competition. "We just wanted to provide the mining detection dogs with a little assistance. We figured if we can prolong the amount of time a dog can work by even 15 to 20 minutes a day, it will really add up in the long run."

BY LORI BONA HUNT

# THE ARTFUL DIRECTOR

*Well-known painter and art critic takes the helm at School of Fine Art and Music*

BY RACHELLE COOPER

**P**ROF. JOHN KISSICK is used to sticking up for the arts. In high school, his brothers were academic overachievers; he was good at drawing and sports. Wanting to show that he, too, could be a success in his chosen career path is perhaps part of the reason Kissick has climbed the academic ladder so quickly to become the new director of the School of Fine Art and Music (SOFAM) at age 41.

After completing an undergraduate degree at Queen's University, Kissick did graduate work at Cornell University and was a fully tenured professor at Pennsylvania State University by the time he was 30. He had full-professor status at 36 and returned home to Toronto a year later to become dean of arts at the Ontario College of Art and Design (OCAD).

Arriving at Guelph July 15, Kissick knew a big part of his job would involve defending the funding needed for SOFAM programs.

"Fine art and music are very expensive to run, especially the studio classes, because they've got very low quotas for classes," he says. "It looks like a black hole, I'm sure, especially compared with the book courses. I think it's my job to make a very strong argument for the centrality of practical studio activity — be it music or art — as part of a total university experience."

The essential quality of the arts is an argument he says he never had to make at OCAD, an all-arts school, but one he was used to making in the university sector. "So it's sort of like getting back into shape after being out of practice for a little while."

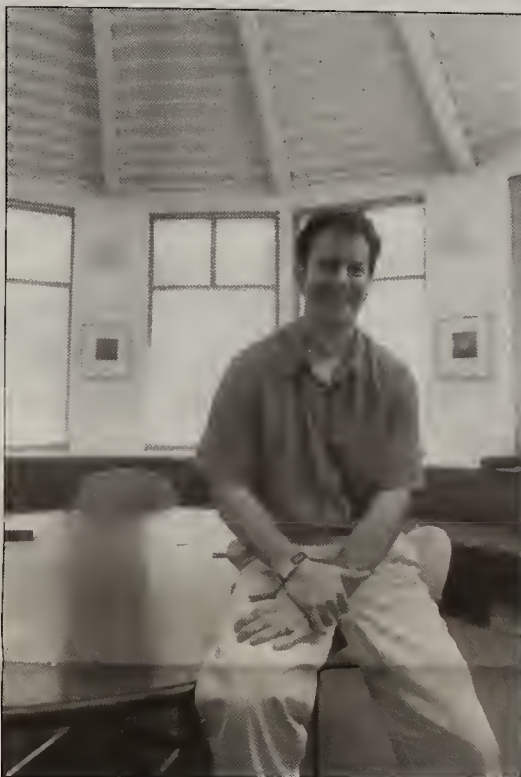
It's evident that Kissick is a natural leader. His well-spoken and personable nature and his confidence stem from years of administrative experience and a determination to succeed. Before joining OCAD, he was the chair of drawing and painting and then of critical studies at Penn State's School of Visual Arts.

Kissick has a clear goal at U of G. "I want to work very hard to position the School of Fine Art and Music within the University as a place of rigorous scholarship and creative inquiry, with students who are critically aware and interested," he says. "I also want to take steps to have the school be perceived as a significant player in the arts sector generally."

He says one of the main contributors to the school's reputation is its talented faculty.

"One of the reasons I was attracted to Guelph was the extraordinary faculty. Part of the advantage Guelph has is that the faculty who live in and commute from Toronto are extremely active in the downtown arts scene there."

Kissick believes in educating students to be art advocates and citizens, above and beyond their work as professional art-



ists and musicians. "I believe that a visual art or music education — although it seems very focused in many ways — when it's done properly, engages a student critically and intellectually in a way that gives him or her life skills that are highly transferable."

College of Arts dean Jacqueline Murray lauds "the unique blend of creative and scholarly accomplishments and administrative experience" that Kissick brings to his position. "His own career as a painter, a teacher and a scholar makes him ideally suited to lead a school whose hallmark is combining the breadth of a bachelor of arts degree with the best practices of experiential learning in the creative arts. SOFAM is poised for a period of

dynamic development."

Although well-known for his contributions to art criticism through his book *Art, Context and Criticism*, through magazine articles in *Canadian Art* and *New Art Examiner* and as editor for the *Penn State Journal of Contemporary Criticism*, Kissick is probably best-known in the contemporary art community for his paintings. He says he's at a critical point in his creative work and is urged to produce work regularly for the Leo Kamen Gallery in Toronto. "My dealers view me solely as an artist, so I've got pressure from that part of my life."

Juggling administrative responsibilities with creating art is actually a dream come true for Kissick. "Once I got to university, I thought it was the greatest place in the world to be. I decided I wanted to have something to do with a university while being a working artist, so I've been able to marry those two interests."

In the academic realm, one of his research areas grew out of a visit to northern Ireland in the late 1980s. As an artist and writer, he was intrigued by paramilitary murals around the city of Belfast.

"One of the things that really fascinated me about them was the rawness and the direct relationship between the images and social control and what they're trying to achieve. They seem so over the top and literal that it was a nice contrast to the contemporary art I'd been seeing."

Kissick says he was surprised that in a fairly cosmopolitan city, the mural paintings were still effectively competing with billboards. Few of the murals are done by trained painters because their purpose is to make a political statement rather than an artistic one, he says.

"The culture wing of the paramilitary makes determinations on subject matter and symbolism used in the murals, so you can understand the debates going on politically by the use of symbols."

He says he's a chapter and a half away from getting his work on the murals published.

In addition to his art, writing, research and new administrative role, Kissick has two children, aged two and four, with his partner, Miranda. The couple has also been busy renovating an old schoolhouse in Elora. "My life is pretty frantic right now," he says with a laugh.

Although art has predominated in Kissick's adult years, the athletic talents he displayed in high school are still an important part of his life. True to Canadian tradition, he's keen to get involved with a local hockey team this fall.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWABE

## History Prof's Book Inspires Award-Winning Film

**T**HE MAGDALENE SISTERS, the award-winning film that has sparked controversy in the Catholic church, is partly based on a book by U of G history professor Linda Mahood.

The movie, which depicts the Irish laundries in which unwed mothers, rape victims and precocious teenagers were institutionalized, was released worldwide by Hollywood's Miramax films this summer.

The film's director, Peter Mullan, cites Mahood's book *The Magdalenes: Prostitution in the 19th Century* as one of the sources for his movie. Since its debut at film festivals last fall, Mahood has been contacted by

religious watch groups such as the U.S. Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights to verify the film's accuracy. When the movie won the Golden Lion for best picture at the Venice International Film Festival, the Vatican newspaper called it an "angry and rancorous provocation."

Mahood says the film gives an accurate account of the Magdalene Institutions, but the Irish Roman Catholic portrayal is a little narrow.

"It's a wonderful film and Mullen makes a valid point. The error he's made, I think, is that he decided to locate it within a Roman Catholic institution. My book is very clear on the fact that Protestants and Roman Catholics were running these institu-

tions; they weren't restricted to one religious creed."

She says the institutions were an extension of the treatment of women in general at the time. "Society put the women in these institutions, not individual churches. The religious controversy in the film diverted the attention away from what the real issue is — the way women were treated in these institutions."

The institutions frequently worked in conjunction with the juvenile court, she says. "They were in there as a result of child welfare laws."

Although most Catholic institutions were run as an extension of the convent system, the Protestant girls

were admitted as wards of the court.

Magdalene institutions began as early as the late 1700s and many didn't close until the 1950s. They weren't found only in the United Kingdom; virtually every city across Europe and North America had this type of institution, Mahood says.

"There was a Toronto Magdalene asylum. There's always been a place to put these girls who seemed to be in 'sexual danger.'"

Mahood's book focuses on both Protestant and Roman Catholic institutions in Scotland. "The Roman Catholic institutions were the hardest to research because the records are all closed, whereas the Protestant records are in various archives and

public libraries.

Aside from her book and the BBC Scotland documentary *Washing Away the Stains* in which Mahood is interviewed, little has been published about these asylums.

Because thousands of women were sent to Magdalene institutions, Mahood is glad the film is helping to tell their stories. "In the late 19th century, there was one institution in Glasgow that had 424 women a year going through it."

Mahood continues to receive e-mails from descendants of women who were in Magdalene institutions, trying to find out more about their family history.

BY RACHELLE COOPER

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# Network to Improve Disease Communication, Monitoring

University, OMAF join forces to create new equine health group

**U** OF G RESEARCHERS and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF) have teamed up to create a new equine health group to keep abreast of infectious diseases such as West Nile virus.

"The emergence of West Nile virus in horses and humans has demonstrated the importance of good communication and co-operation regarding emerging infectious diseases," says Prof. Scott Weese, Clinical Studies, who will co-ordinate the Ontario Equine Health Network.

The network will assess endemic and epidemic infectious diseases and communicate relevant information to veterinarians and equine industry groups. It also includes Grant Maxie, Beverly McEwen and Josepha DeLay

of U of G's Animal Health Laboratory, as well as David Alves, Paul Innes and Bob Wright of OMAF.

In Ontario, several different agencies are usually involved in identifying, monitoring and addressing infectious disease in horses, says Weese. "The communications network we are establishing will ensure that important information received by one individual or group will reach all relevant individuals as quickly as possible."

The network will distribute periodic disease updates and publish a quarterly newsletter, in addition to e-mailing or faxing urgent communications.

"We hope these new lines of communication will encourage a two-way dialogue among equine

veterinarians about important health topics," he says.

The network sent out its first equine infectious disease report in July. It included updated information on West Nile and other emerging diseases and diagnosis tips. The network also issued its first "disease alert" in August, advising veterinarians and horse owners of the unusually high incidence of eastern equine encephalitis virus in the southern United States. The virus has caused sporadic outbreaks in Ontario horses in recent years.

"Communication is the key to disease surveillance," says Weese, "and co-ordination of disease reporting is an important aspect of this program."

BY LORI BONA HUNT

# Seed Encyclopedia Takes Root

Botanist edits 800-page volume he hopes will become 'seed bible'

**C**ALL IT A 6,000-year-long germination process. Prof. Derek Bewley, Botanist, says a seed encyclopedia he's co-editing for publication next year will be the first reference of its kind available since, well, since domestication of the first crops in the Fertile Crescent around 4,000 BC.

Expected to run up to 800 pages long, the *Encyclopedia of Seeds: Science, Technology and Uses* will be a comprehensive reference source on seed science, covering seed anatomy, morphology, physiology, biochemistry and molecular biology.

The book will also address uses of seeds in food and industry, processing and preparation, development and uses of all major and minor seed crops in agriculture and horticulture worldwide, as well as seed systems, seed trade, laws and regulations, and diseases and pests.

Bewley says the encyclopedia is intended for an eclectic readership, including university, government and industry researchers, commercial producers and processors, and experts in seed trade and seed laws, particularly patent issues.

The Guelph professor, considered by many in the field as the "dean" of seed research science, hopes this will eventually be "the seed bible" for readers interested in any aspect of seeds or their production and processing.

Although you'd have to be a seed nut of sorts to burrow into such index topics as arabinogalactans or wettable powder formulation, general readers will probably find more than a few intriguing kernels among planned "Did You Know?" sections on everything from seeds in history and art to seeds in space.

"I'm fascinated by some of the material that comes up," says Bewley, referring to everything from the history of seeds to today's so-called "artificial seeds" produced through

genetic engineering.

He points to one sample entry on the historical role of seeds in developing several weights and measures still used today:

- In the Middle East, weights were based on the shekel, consisting of 180 barley or wheat grains.
- In 13th-century England, the standard inch was fixed as the length of three barley grains, laid end to end.
- Elizabeth I decreed that the pound, consisting of 7,000 cereal grains, should be a standard of weights of all materials other than precious metals.

Why a seed encyclopedia?

Think about your dinner plate, says Bewley. About 70 per cent of the foods we eat are derived from seeds — bread, pasta, cereals — not to mention animal feed.

Seeds are also important in a historical sense, he says. Much of today's burgeoning genetics research has its roots in Gregor Mendel's experiments, which, on one level, involved nothing more complicated than observing variations in appearances of interbred seeds.

Another reason for creating an encyclopedia will resonate with any academic worth his or her research salt: it's never been done before. "It's one of those things where you think everybody should have done it, but nobody has the time to do it," says Bewley.

There's no shortage of information about aspects of seeds and their uses. For example, he thumbs through a manual containing nothing but detailed species-by-species instructions for seed storage. *Seeds: Physiology of Development and Germination*, a book he co-wrote with his former PhD supervisor, Michael Black, is considered the definitive volume in its field.

The idea for an encyclopedia grew out of their discussions about

publishing a third edition of their book. They had even considered publishing an electronic compendium, perhaps a CD-ROM or an Internet encyclopedia.

"I use the Web a lot," says Bewley, "but nowhere on the Web do I find concise information and definitions." And flipping to a pertinent page is still faster than clicking through to the desired Web location, he says.

Recognizing they would need an expert on the industrial side of seed production and processing, Bewley and Black (now retired from King's College in London) enlisted Peter Halmer, chief scientist at German's Technology Group in the United Kingdom.

The trio's publisher is the U.K. publishing arm of Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau International. The company also publishes a variety of journals such as *Seed Science Research*, for which Bewley is an associate editor.

They have commissioned contributions from 81 authorities in more than 20 countries. Bewley is writing six entries — and editing submissions from some 30 authors — in his field of biochemical, molecular and metabolic aspects of seeds, including seed germination. Two other Guelph contributors are Profs. Duane Falk and Laima Kott of the Department of Plant Agriculture.

"With very few exceptions, people have just embraced this and said, 'Wow, what a great idea,'" says Bewley.

He has studied processes regulating seed germination and dormancy in everything from coffee (the "beans" are actually seeds) to tomatoes. "I'm fascinated by them. There are so many questions that can be asked."

And answered — with the new seed encyclopedia in hand next year.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

# Some Things You Can Count On

Traditional hot dog lunch Sept. 30 on Branon Plaza will kick off 2003 campus United Way campaign



This year's volunteer co-ordinators and canvassers for U of G's United Way campaign show their team spirit at an appreciation luncheon held in August.

PHOTO BY RACHELLE COOPER

**A** UNIVERSITY CAMPUS is a dynamic and ever-changing place, but there are still a few things you can always count on. Like parking problems during the first few weeks of September and hot dogs served up on the first day of the annual United Way campaign.

Hot dog day is Sept. 30, so mark your calendar and bring \$3 to help launch the University's 2003 fundraising drive for the Guelph and Wellington United Way. Hot dogs, veggie dogs and pop will be served by United Way volunteers, senior University administrators, staff, union groups, student groups and Hospitality Services on Branon Plaza from noon to 2 p.m. (Rain location is Peter Clark Hall.)

The University's goal for 2003 has been set at \$285,000. More than 100 community service agencies receive financial support from the United Way, including youth services at Wyndham House, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guelph, Hospice Wellington and Onward Willow.

The county-wide United Way campaign kicks off Sept. 12 at noon at the Guelph Armory, with U of G chancellor Lincoln Alexander as guest speaker. The Guelph-Wellington campaign chair is Eugene Kraemer, manager of human resources at Blount Canada Ltd. and a 1972 Guelph social science graduate.

The University will also be represented at the downtown event by

president Alastair Summerlee and United Way campus co-chairs Toni Pellizzari, executive secretary to the dean of CBS, and Prof. Anthony Clarke, assistant vice-president (academic).

About 50 University staff who will serve as co-ordinators and canvassers for the campus campaign attended a volunteer appreciation luncheon Aug. 28. Training sessions will run from noon to 2 p.m. Sept. 19 in Room 141 of the Animal Science and Nutrition Building, Sept. 23 in the OAC boardroom and Sept. 25 in Room 441 of the University Centre.

Campus pledge cards will go out Oct. 1, says Pellizzari, and a pledge card blitz will run throughout the month of October, with lots of in-

centive prizes to be won.

"The earlier you hand in your pledge card, the greater chance you have to win some great prizes," she says. "One of the donated prizes is dinner for two couples to be arranged in February with OAC dean Craig Pearson, Department of Food Science chair Peter Purslow and Canadian cuisine guru Anita Stewart."

Other prizes to date include gift certificates donated by the Stone Store and Guelph Poultry Market, Bookshelf certificates provided by Nancy Sullivan and Prof. Jill McCutcheon, a Body Shop gift certificate donated by Brenda Whiteside, a bottle of champagne from Prof. Thom Hermann, and a gift certificate to Twelfth Night Mu-

sic Shop provided by Prof. Bev Kay.

Anyone interested in donating a prize to the incentive draw should send e-mail to Tricia Halley at [tricia@mikehalley.ca](mailto:tricia@mikehalley.ca).

A United Way Web site to be set up later this month will keep the University community up-to-date on campaign-related activities and events throughout the fall. On Oct. 4, for example, the Department of Athletics will donate some of the proceeds from ticket sales for the Gryphon varsity football game against the University of Ottawa.

News of United Way events and reports on the campaign's progress will also appear regularly in @Guelph.

BY MARY DICKIESON

## Project Aims to Improve Quality of Local Child Care

Researchers will assess training, resource needs and implement collaborative child-care infrastructure for Wellington County

**T**HE UNIVERSITY has launched a new project aimed at improving the quality of local child-care programs.

"A Community-Wide Approach for Improving and Sustaining High-Quality Child Care in Wellington County" is being funded by Wellington County and the Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services.

"This funding is great news," says Prof. Donna Lero, Jarislowsky Chair in Families and Work, who is a co-investigator on this project with Prof. Kathleen Brophy, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition.

"The quality of early childhood education and child-care services should be a critical concern for all of us. This project will enable faculty with considerable expertise to work collaboratively with the child-care community and others. We will address common concerns, develop creative solutions and forge new partnerships."

In the 2001 study "You Bet I Care," Lero and four other researchers found that child-care centres face a shortage of skilled teachers and many are in precarious financial shape. She notes that international studies on child care have shown that quality child-care programs can have long-term positive effects on children's cognitive, social and emotional development.

In other research, Lero and Brophy found that opportunities for children with special needs, further teacher training and leadership guidance for directors need to be addressed.

"When I started in the child-care field more than 20 years ago, there were very few training resources for directors," says Judy Callahan, director of U of G's Child-Care and Learning Centre. "We had to learn on the job, without access to courses specific for child-care services. This new project will help future and current directors gain access to training

specific to their needs."

After Lero and Brophy assess the training and resource needs of child-care facilities and review models of community-based support, they plan to implement a collaborative child-care infrastructure for Wellington County. Conducting training workshops, setting up mentorship programs and developing

two resource libraries are some of the ways the project plans to improve child-care services in Guelph and the county.

"People working in child care across the community are excited to take part in this project," says Teresa McKeeman, director of child-care services for the County of Wellington. "We have a lot to gain from this

collaborative effort."

Adds Lero: "Both the local economy and families will benefit from a county that can boast of high-quality child care."

The project is being conducted through the University's Centre for Families, Work and Well-Being.

BY RACHELLE COOPER

## Employees Mark 25 Years

**M**ORE THAN 1,500 faculty and staff turned out for a community breakfast hosted by president Alastair Summerlee Sept. 4 in the Gryphon Dome.

Special guests at the breakfast were the following U of G faculty and staff who are marking their 25th year at U of G in 2003: Arlene Weller, Ross Nazar, Susan Lewis, Donald Sullivan, Alun Joseph, William Christian, Marisa Reginato, Eleanor

Martin, John Proctor, Lynn Verspagen, Beverly Gilbert, Richard Reid, Terry Beveridge, Carole Ann Lacroix, Ian Renaud, Ed Hedican, Peter McCaskell, Madge Grant, Loreen Kelly, John Miles, Jayne Hutchison, Larry Seigmiller, Cal Swegles, Sharon Quiring, Ron MacKinnon, Dianna Hewitt, Florita Ison, Janice Gottfried, Johanna Campagnolo, Rose MacQueen, Annette Clarke, Keith Solomon,

Peter Stonehouse, Otilie Welsh, Richard Jordan, Janice Brazolot, Yukio Kakuda, Gary Smith, Winnifred Halina, Patricia Huether, Alan Meek, Shelley James, Marlene Eberhardt, Pat Bordignon, Barb Cardow, Linda Graham, Lynda McCreery, Robert Frank, Gregory Humphreys, Linda Gerber, Marlene Oliveri, Rhonda Taylor, Andrew Curtis, Helen Clarke, George Perry and Bruno Mancini.

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# Changes Aimed at Containing Demand for Parking Spaces

*University of Guelph launches formal car-pool program in hopes of reducing  
number of single-occupancy vehicles travelling to campus each day*

**D**URING THE DEVELOPMENT of the University's campus master plan, parking consultants identified several measures that could help contain the demand for parking spaces on campus, says Keith McIntyre, director of Security Services. These included the addition of bicycle lanes, on-street parking and the introduction of a car-pool program.

"As a result of these recommendations and our own Parking Administration's long-term planning, many measures were addressed over the summer in addition to our regularly scheduled maintenance and upgrading program," McIntyre says.

The following upgrades to parking resources are under way or completed:

- Dundas Lane (east of East Ring Road to P18 and College Avenue) will have one bicycle lane running in each direction.
- South Ring Road will include one bicycle lane in each direction from Gordon Street to Stone Road East. As a result, South Ring will now have two lanes for cars.
- East Ring Road will have one bicycle lane in each direction from College to South Ring Road. On-street parallel permit parking will also be introduced on the west side of East Ring from College to South Ring. East Ring will be reduced from four lanes to two.
- McGillivray Street will include one bicycle lane in each direction for the east/west portion of the roadway. The north/south portion is too narrow to accommodate bicycle lanes, McIntyre says. In addition,

on-street parallel permit parking will be introduced along the south side of McGillivray from the family housing complex towards Gordon Street.

He notes that on-street parking on East Ring and McGillivray will be allowed from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Permit parking in these areas will be strictly enforced from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday, except for statutory holidays. To facilitate road maintenance programs, no parking will be allowed from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. on any day of the week.

"The new bicycle lanes and on-street parking spaces will be clearly marked and visible," adds McIntyre. "City of Guelph bus routes and stops will remain unchanged. We recommend that anyone accessing these areas use extra caution as they become familiarized with the upgrades."

In campus parking lots, summer initiatives include upgrades to lighting in lots P15, P17, P19 and P23/24 and a new surveillance camera in P15. In addition, seven blue-light outdoor emergency telephones are being added to P16 and P24. Arboretum Road, Dairy Bush path near Edinburgh Road, the current path from Dairy Bush to Chancellor's Way, Reynolds Walk at the Gordon Street pedestrian crosswalk and the entrance mall at the east end of South Residence.

In hopes of reducing the number of single-occupancy vehicles travelling to campus each day, U of G has

just introduced a formal car-pool program. Similar programs are already in place at other universities, including Queen's, McMaster, York, Brock and Toronto, says Ian Weir, acting manager of Parking Administration.

"The benefits of such programs include financial savings, health and environmental advantages and a centrally located parking space," says Weir. "Our car-pool areas will be co-existing with the pay-as-you-park area located on the eastern side of P31 and P26."

Parking Administration is providing a free service to anyone wishing to explore carpooling options through the Web site [www.car-pool.ca](http://www.car-pool.ca). To find a potential car-pool group or to register your own group, just visit the site and sign up on the database.

The database will provide a list of potential candidates for carpooling based on destination, location, work hours and a variety of other factors — even music preference. You can then contact any of the potential matches provided.

Once you've agreed with at least two other people to form a group, you must first register through the Web site, then all members must register in person at Parking Administration. The vehicle registration for each vehicle in the group must be presented.

For more information, visit the Web site [www.security.uoguelph.ca/Parking/index.html](http://www.security.uoguelph.ca/Parking/index.html).

## Campus Police Offer Tips to Keep Vehicles Safe

**T**HE CANADIAN Association of Chiefs of Police reports that in 2001 alone, more than 170,000 motor vehicles were stolen in Canada, an average of 465 a day. That represents an increase of 27 per cent over the past 10 years. The highest number of thefts occurred in Ontario — 50,067.

Bryce Kohlmeier, community liaison officer with University Police, has a number of suggestions to help keep your vehicle safe, whether on campus or off.

- Park in a well-lit and busy area, such as under a streetlight, in a lighted parking lot/garage or on a street with lots of traffic.
- When you park, make sure the car is locked, and don't keep a spare key in a place you think is hidden.
- Never hide your keys in your car. This means removing them from above the sun visor, underneath the seat, under the floor mat, etc.
- Lock your car even if you're just

getting out for a quick stop.

- Never leave your car with the keys still in the ignition.
- Put all valuables or parcels in the trunk. If you have to leave something valuable in the car, at least cover it up when you get out.
- Mount tape/CD decks or car phones inconspicuously. If possible, use mounts that let you remove the equipment for safekeeping.
- Install a mechanical deterrent, such as "The Club," an electronic alarm or a kill switch.
- Make sure your key ring doesn't have your car's licence number, your name and address or the description of your car listed on it anywhere.

"Car thefts do happen, and they happen here on campus," says Kohlmeier. "Help reduce crime and report any suspicious activity to University Police at Ext. 52245 or 52000."

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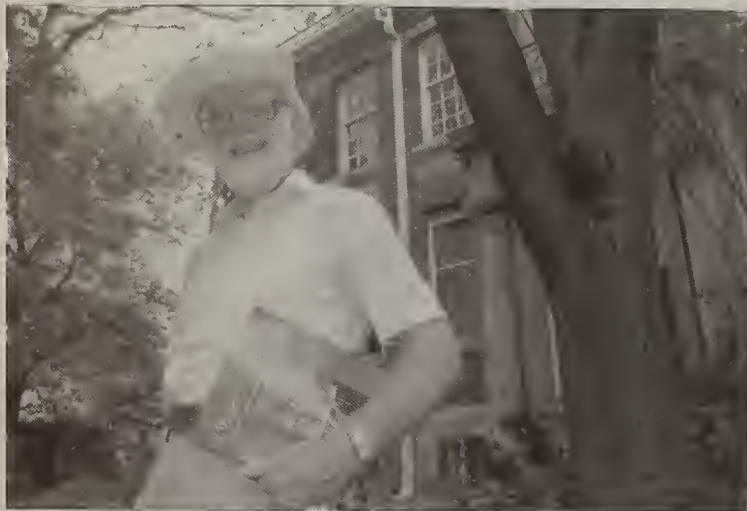
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# Ontario Towns Rich in History, Beauty, New Book Reveals

Geographer spotlights 10 picturesque towns east of Highway 400



Prof. Fred Dahms's latest book reflects his belief that academics should be able to make their research accessible to the general public. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

THERE'S NO NEED TO TRAVEL all the way to Europe to discover quaint towns that remain connected to their origins. In his new book, *Picturesque Ontario Towns*, retired geography professor Fred Dahms shows that you just need to get off the 400 series of highways to discover towns rich in culture and history.

Dahms features the geological history, physical features and cultural highlights of 10 towns east of Highway 400 in his book. It's a sequel to his 2001 book, *Beautiful Ontario Towns*, which explores towns west of the 400. More than 120 colour photographs complement the new book's physical and historical descriptions of Bobcaygeon, Cobourg, Campbellford, Deseronto, Fenelon Falls, Napanee, Millbrook, Picton, Port Hope and Port Perry.

"Because most of these towns are fairly small, you have the remnants of the original community," says Dahms. "It's an absolutely delightful part of Ontario. These places all have friendly people, small-town charm, rural ambience and exquisite settings in common."

In writing *Picturesque Ontario Towns*, Dahms was able to take years of his research and put it in a popular context, so the information is accessible to the general public.

"I believe strongly that academics should be able to communicate their research in a way that is not only comprehensible to the average person but interesting as well," he says.

Although his own research career began with a focus on urban envi-

ronments, he gradually turned to rural studies, specifically the changing function of small rural communities. He aimed to dispel the myth that small towns were dying out and that big cities were the only place to be. Indeed, what he discovered was that many communities within a couple of hundred kilometres of major centres had found new life thanks to tourists and the large number of retirees who had moved to these areas.

"In addition, people are so mobile these days because of the Internet that many are moving to smaller towns for the quality of life and because living costs are lower," he says.

Of the towns included in Dahms's new book, all except Millbrook are accessible by boat from the Trent-Severn Waterway and were originally settled as dam sites with sawmills or trading posts. The buildings of each town have a distinct character that is a result of local materials used in their construction because of limited transportation.

Dahms ties the history of the buildings to the towns' current economies. "There's now a tension in these towns between a desire to become bigger and the desire to keep it the way it was."

The book contains maps and statistical information about each town, including population, incomes, main industry, real estate prices and medical and recreational facilities. Many people are looking to retire in these communities because of their proximity to the water and their small-town ambience, says

Dahms. His book can help them compare the different attributes of each location.

Retired since September 2000, Dahms joined U of G in 1966 as a founding member of the Department of Geography and served as chair from 1968 to 1974. He has written for *Canadian Geographic* and several newspapers and is the author of *The Heart of the Country*. He has also contributed chapters to academic books published in Japan and India as he continues his work on "resort, retirement, amenity" communities in Canada.

*Picturesque Ontario Towns* is available at the U of G Bookstore, Pond's and the Bookshelf.

BY RACHELLE COOPER

# OAC Prof to Chair Advisory Committee

Group to make nutrient management recommendations

PROF. WAYNE CALDWELL, School of Environmental Design and Rural Development, has been named chair of Ontario's Nutrient Management Advisory Committee.

The 20-member group is made up of representatives from farm organizations and environmental, scientific and academic communities who have been working with the government to develop legislation and draft regulations.

Caldwell, who joined U of G in 1992, is also a senior planner with the County of Huron. His areas of expertise include land-use planning for agriculture and rural communities, planning regulation and siting livestock facilities, the provincial role in planning and development, facilitation, conflict resolution and

public participation. In 2001, he received the Ontario Professional Planning Award of Excellence (Provincial Outstanding Planning Award) for a rural planning and nutrient management manual.

The role of the advisory committee will be to provide recommendations to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food about technical issues identified during consultations on the Nutrient Management Act 2002. The new legislation is set to begin in September for all new and expanding livestock operations over 300 livestock units.

Caldwell says a better understanding of agriculture for the urban population and environmental protection is achievable through the provincial nutrient management legislation.

# MBA Scholarships Presented to Two

THE MBA in agriculture program held its annual awards dinner in August. Two scholarships were presented to students in the program, which is designed to meet the management education needs of agribusiness executives and primary producers around the world.

Graduate studies dean Isobel Heathcote presented the \$2,500 James Aubrey Garner Memorial Scholarship to Joel Gingrich, an instructor at Olds College in Alberta. Named for the late J.A. Garner, a 1923 graduate of OAC and a member of the Ontario Agricultural Hall of Fame, the scholarship is awarded to

an exceptional student demonstrating a commitment to furthering the cause of family farms and small-scale agribusiness.

Heathcote also presented the \$2,000 Murray Selves Memorial Scholarship to Robert Simpson, an executive with Shamrock Swine Genetics in West Lorne. Named for the late Murray Selves, a 1957 OAC graduate and a leader in the Ontario pork industry, this scholarship is awarded to an exceptional student who is involved in primary food production and demonstrates an entrepreneurial and creative approach to business management.

By Dan Needles Starring Rod Beattie Directed by Douglas Beattie

## Wingfield's Folly

Part 3 of the hilarious series of one-man comedies about stockbroker turned farmer, Walt Wingfield. In his third year on the farm Walt sets up a closed economy, prints his own currency and falls in love.

Thursday, September 25  
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du Maurier Theatre



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Windjammers welcomes: Peter Applebury, world-famous vibraphone player; Dinah Christie, Canadian legend; Rick Williams, Blue Grass band player, fabulous arranger; Heather Burdick, outstanding young jazz vocalist; and Karen K. Edral, the Broadway star living in Waterloo.

## 4th Annual Canadian Songwriters Festival



Friday, Oct. 3 at 7:30 pm  
Fred Eaglesmith and the Painted Noodles / Kim Richey / Willie P. Bennett

Saturday, Oct. 4 at 7:30 pm  
Ron Susmith / Neil Diamond

Song Swap / Sat, Oct. 4 at 1:00 pm  
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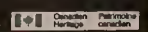


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# New Facilities, Services Greet Arriving Students

Continued from page 1

tional sciences on campus and provide new lab and research space for several departments. One of the largest building projects in the University's history, the complex is scheduled for completion in 2006 (see construction update on page 6).

"I am very pleased to report that, contrary to earlier media reports, we will not be holding classes or labs on Saturdays," says Mancuso. "The deans, associate deans and faculty have all worked very hard to ensure that we can accommodate classes and labs. They have come up with some highly creative initiatives."

One example is the Web-based laboratories developed by the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry as a supplement to an online chemistry lecture course.

"Our experience with computer labs tells us they are just as effective as 'wet' labs with respect to theory," says Prof. Bob Balahura.

New programs, majors and courses have been added in recent years and months in anticipation of the increased student population, and other programs and majors have undergone wide-sweeping revisions and updating. In addition, the new pilot project of first-year seminar courses for the arts and science program, which initially had a limited enrolment of 20, has been expanded to bachelor of commerce students.

Students will also be able to spend more hours studying in the McLaughlin Library because the building will now be open from 7 a.m. to 2 a.m. seven days a week (see story on page 6). The increased access is part of a huge renovation that will include making the Learning Commons, the one-stop support area for students, a focal point. Phase 2 of the project, which includes an

Internet café, is scheduled to be completed in fall 2004.

In addition, Amy Allen needn't worry about getting the academic advice and support she might need. A new Undergraduate Academic Information Centre has opened on the third floor of the University Centre near the co-op desk. The centre serves as a point of first contact for students and includes a co-ordinator and staff of peer helpers. It provides general information, including transfer requirements and procedures, admission and graduation requirements, and information about the appeals process. It will also make referrals to the proper faculty adviser or program counsellor.

Other new facilities and improvements are the \$3.5-million expansion of the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, the newly opened University of Guelph-Humber building (see story on page 1), and renovations and new offerings at the Athletics Centre. The Bullring was turned into a student-run coffee house and lounge this summer, and there were numerous additions and expansions to the food court in the University Centre.

These changes aren't the only things that greeted the thousands of double cohort students who moved in on Labour Day weekend. Many of the students were already acquainted with the campus, thanks to ST@RT Online, Canada's first online university orientation program. It helped connect hundreds of new Guelph students with each other, with upper-year students, and with services and people across campus. There were online forums and real-time chats with other students in their academic programs led by returning U of G students.

About 97 per cent of this computer-savvy new class also pre-selected their courses via the Web this summer, which means lineups in the Office of Registrarial Services are significantly shorter this semester, says registrar Brian Pettigrew. Lineups have also been eased by the establishment of an information services desk just outside Registrarial Services, as well as a separate ID card centre where students can obtain a photo card on the spot.

On the residence front, Student Housing Services chalked up one of the smoothest move-in days on record, says Brenda Whiteside, associate vice-president (student affairs).

"It went better than we could

have dreamed, much better than in previous years," she says. "And the credit for that lies with the faculty and staff volunteers and close to 700 returning students who were on hand to help the new students move into their rooms."

Mancuso, who assisted with the move-in, says she's proud that Guelph was able to guarantee on-campus housing for all entering students who applied by the deadline.

"We didn't have to resort to using incentives like other universities did. We were able to accommodate our students using expanded space in our residences."

There are new off-campus housing options as well. Phase one of a

private rental housing development primarily for students opened along Edinburgh Road north of the Edinburgh Market Place. It will eventually provide up to 150 rental units.

For Amy and Matt, this combination of factors has meant that both were able to secure housing on campus. Amy, in particular, is thrilled with her living arrangements: she and two friends are sharing a room in Mills Hall, her first residence choice. Matt is in a double room in Lennox Hall — across the road from Amy. That, at least, is a bit of a consolation, he says. "Come on, let's be honest. Who wants to start university with their little sister?"

BY LORI BONA HUNT

## Humber Building Reflects Learner-Centred Environment

Continued from page 1

students will attend classes in the new university building, located on Humber's north campus in Toronto.

The four-storey, 133,130-square-foot structure has 22 classrooms as well as specialized teaching and learning laboratories. In addition, the entire second floor is devoted to space for informal student learning. There is a 164-seat learning commons, a 200-seat Internet café, eight breakout rooms, computer classrooms, and a 90-seat math and writing centre.

The internal atrium is designed for special events and lectures and has a wall of plants. This wall provides an active biofilter for improved air quality and will contribute to the

ventilation of the building — warming the air in winter and cooling the facility in summer. It will also be the site of a research project studying the effects of biofilters in large buildings.

The new building received \$28.63 million in funding as part of the Ontario government's SuperBuild project. The facility was designed to complement the university's commitment to a learner-centred environment, with most classrooms holding small groups of 25 to 65, says Prof. Michael Nightingale, vice-provost and chief academic officer.

"This is a community of learners where faculty and students know one another by name."

The University of Guelph-

Humber opened in fall 2002 and initially offered programs in business, computing and media studies. Three new programs — justice studies, family and community social services and early childhood — have been added this fall, and 93 per cent of the inaugural class is returning for a second year.

"Our high retention rate reflects the quality of our faculty and staff, as well as our first-rate students and our commitment to their success," Nightingale says.

The university plans to accommodate more than 2,000 students in the new building by 2006.

BY LORI BONA HUNT

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Aquarium, 33 gallons, black metal stand, filtering system, light, extras, great condition, Karen, Ext. 52387.

Boy's size seven hockey skates, excellent condition; Our Lady of Lourdes kilt, size 10/12, like new, 821-1493 or whuck@hotmail.com.

Apartment-sized Whirlpool washer and dryer with stand, stackable, can connect directly to kitchen faucet, will deliver, 519-833-2736.

Letrajat Airbrush with 65 Pantene markers, black foldout case, never used; Alpine 700w Mono amplifier, never used; Brenda Dygraf ab gym and circuit trainer with videos, carrying case, Elaine, Ext. 58918 or 837-1803.

Double sofa bed, soft grey with burgundy and aqua, excellent condition, Norma, Ext. 53605.

Handmade wooden clothes dryers, Ext. 56580.

African tribal blankets, handwoven in Nigeria, tjones@uoguelph.ca.

Fax machines: Canon Laser Class 5000, Canon L 760, info@open.uoguelph.ca.

Solid oak kitchen table, four chairs with upholstered seats, 766-0473 evenings.

Gold Kelvinator stove; 14-cubic-foot Beaumark refrigerator, almond; built-in Kenmore dishwasher; full-size Panasonic microwave, all older but in good working order, can deliver, Heather, Ext. 58367 or hbai-ley@uoguelph.ca.

Lourdes uniform: three medium-size blouses, size 7/8 kilt, V-necked pullover; Senior Cooper Reactor goalie's glove, Cooper blocker and catcher, Boddam 31-inch intermediate pads; size six skates, size Jr. L. I-Tech body armour, size Jr. L. Mission in-line girdle, 843-8842.

1993 Mazda Protege, teal, four-door automatic, moon roof, CD player, new tires on front, good condition, 651-2537 or denise@sec.uoguelph.ca.

Telus/Cleartel cell phone with regular charger, car charger and leather case; manual Canon Canonet 35mm camera, Ext. 58176 or mic@phys-ics.uoguelph.ca.

1991 Honda Accord LX, five-speed manual transmission, 164,000 km, champagne/metallic exterior, well maintained, great on gas, 826-6892.

Two-storey home in Woodland Glen, hardwood floors, finished basement, in-ground pool, professionally landscaped; Royale DU4 ebony piano, hardly used, 10 years old, 823-8548.

Royal Grafton fine English china, "Bridal Wreath" pattern: eight-place setting, two vegetable bowls, salt and pepper, never used, will sell only as set, darw19@rogers.com.

## FOR RENT

Furnished one-bedroom apartment on main floor in building overlooking River Run Centre, four appliances, cable, courtesy cell phone, steam bath, parking, non-smokers, no pets, \$525 a week, \$1,475 a month, 836-4186 or toadhall@sen-tex.ca.

Four-bedroom house in south end, two baths, dishwasher, deck, central air, laundry, parking for three cars, close to Hartsland Zehrs, non-smokers, no pets, available immediately, \$1,500 a month plus utilities, Nathan, 767-1312, or Rama, 820-1933.

Three-bedroom two-storey house on Old Colony Trail, 30-minute walk to campus, walk-out basement, washer/dryer, dishwasher, central air, available immediately for long lease, \$1,500 a month plus utilities, Leon, 836-4085.

Five-bedroom house on Victoria Road, two baths, large roofed patio, two separate entrances, laundry, parking, available Oct. 1, \$425 a month per bedroom or \$1,950 a month for the house, Gerry or Gail, 905-472-5466.

Self-contained apartment in large country home, 15 minutes southeast of campus, possibility of reduced rent in exchange for feeding cats and wild birds, available immediately for minimum of three months, Anne, 905-854-9833.

One-bedroom apartment in new home on Rickson Avenue, available immediately, \$380 a month plus utilities, 705-879-1185 or kvan-beek@uoguelph.ca.

Furnished four-bedroom house within walking distance of University, suitable for visiting professional family, modern conveniences, large lot, non-smokers, no pets, available Dec. 1 to March 31, 2004, \$1,600 a month plus utilities, John, Ext. 53446 or jtprocto@uoguelph.ca.

Two-bedroom apartment in century stone house on one-acre setting, appliances, sun porch, parking for

two cars, very private, available Dec. 1, \$975 a month inclusive, 824-1773.

Furnished two-bedroom condo in Phoenix Mills for short- or long-term rental, Jacuzzi, two baths, fitness room, ensuite laundry, parking, available Oct. 1, \$1,500 a month inclusive, Carol, 823-1857, 731-1857 or Intelrent@hotmail.com.

Furnished house available four days a week, ideal for female faculty member or graduate student who must be in Guelph during the week but lives elsewhere, \$500, 826-7825.

## WANTED

Comfortable sofas, loveseats and living room chairs with adequate back support for large community room, traditional cream, green or warm tones preferred, no plaids; bookshelves, either open or with doors, duval.26@rogers.com.

Two-bedroom house in Guelph, at least 800 square feet, laundry and appliances required, rent under \$1,000 inclusive, craig@weirconsulting.ca.

## AVAILABLE

Student for fall cleanup, reliable, hardworking, 820-6254.

Qualified Latin and classics tutor, tjones@uoguelph.ca.

Weaves, braiding, extensions, Grace, 763-5159.

Ten-week course on "Christianity: Boring, Untrue and Irrelevant?" begins Sept. 17 at 5:45 p.m. in UC 442, includes supper, everyone invited. Register at Ext. 58423.

Printer repair available on campus, leave message at 519-749-0356.

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Classifieds is a free service available to staff, faculty, students, alumni and retirees of the University of Guelph. Submit items to Linda Graham on Level 4 of the University Centre, fax to 519-824-7962 or send by e-mail to l.graham@exec.uoguelph.ca. For more information, call Ext. 56581.

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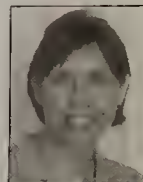
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## ARBORETUM

The Arboretum Auxiliary holds its annual plant sale Sept. 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the R.J. Hilton Centre on College Avenue East.

The Arboretum's Sunday afternoon walks continue Sept. 14 with "Autumn Wildflowers" and Sept. 21 with "Fall Discovery Tour." The walks leave from the Nature Centre at 2 p.m. A \$3 donation is suggested.

The annual dedication service for the Wall-Custance Memorial Forest is Sept. 21 at 2:30 p.m. at the dedication grove across from the Arboretum information kiosk. For more information, call Ext. 52113.

Willow artist Barbara Guy Long leads a workshop on "Willow Wattle Weave" Sept. 29 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$85. Registration and payment are required by Sept. 15.

Naturalist Chris Earley is offering two watercolour courses — "Look, See, Paint" Sept. 26 from 9:30 a.m. to noon and "Look, See, Paint II" Oct. 8 from 2 to 4:30 p.m. Each course costs \$25. Registration deadlines are Sept. 12 and 24.

## NOTICES

U of G employees are reminded that the validation stickers on their ID cards became void Sept. 1. New stickers for the current year can be obtained from department secretaries or administrative assistants.

The Central Ontario Orchid Society Show and Sale runs Sept. 27 and 28 in the University Centre. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

The Stress Management and High Performance Clinic will hold classes in relaxation and stress management

skills training beginning Sept. 23. The 12-session program will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. in Population Medicine 2511. Cost is \$40 for U of G students, \$60 for members of U of G Steelworkers Local 4120 and \$120 for others. For more information, visit the Web site [www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers) or leave a message at Ext. 52662.

The U of G Christian Forum is sponsoring a 10-week Christian education program called "Alpha," beginning Sept. 17 at 5:45 p.m. in UC 442. The series opens with a discussion of "Christianity: Boring, Untrue and Irrelevant?" A pizza supper will be provided. For more information or to register, call Ext. 58423.

More than 400 U of G students, faculty and staff will head into the Guelph community Sept. 20 to volunteer at more than 20 local agencies as part of the University's sixth annual Project Serve day. Participants will spend several hours doing various jobs from cleaning conservation areas to sorting food at non-profit agencies such as the Humane Society and the Food Bank.

The competition for Canada-U.S. Fulbright Awards is now open for Canadian students, scholars and professionals wishing to study, conduct research and/or teach at an academic institution in the United States. Applications for the 2004 awards must be postmarked by Nov. 15. For more information, visit the Web site [www.fulbright.ca](http://www.fulbright.ca) or send e-mail to [abrown@fulbright.ca](mailto:abrown@fulbright.ca) or [ajharvey@fulbright.ca](mailto:ajharvey@fulbright.ca).

## SEMINARS

The Department of Physics seminar series features Jeffrey Brook of Environmental Canada discussing "Cardiovascular Responses From Exposure to Atmospheric Fine Particulate Matter" Sept. 16. On Sept. 23, Simon

Capstick of the University of Florida considers "The Excitement About Pentaquarks." The seminars begin at 4 p.m. in MacNaughton 113.

"Ebola Virus: A Biological Enigma" is the topic of graduate student David Thumbi in the Department of Microbiology graduate student seminar series Sept. 19 at 12:30 p.m. in Axelrod 117.

The Pathobiology Seminar Series kicks off Sept. 19 with a discussion of "Surfactant: Importance in Health and Disease" by Dr. Jim Lewis of St. Joseph's Health Centre in London and the University of Western Ontario. His talk begins at 2 p.m. in OVC 1713.

## TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services (TSS) is again offering training and development opportunities for faculty and instructional staff this semester. Slated for this month are "Including Universal Instructional Design in Your Lectures" Sept. 11, "WebCT: Hands-on for First-Time Users" university Women will meet Sept. 23 at 7:30 p.m. at Harpo's Banquet Hall, 89 Dawson Rd. Guest speaker is "Sept. 16, 'Exploring Learning Technologies'" Sept. 17, "Digital Images Clinic" Sept. 25 and "WebCT Advanced — Session I: The Graded-book" Sept. 30. For the complete semester schedule, detailed descriptions and online registration, visit the Web site [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca).

TSS is offering ongoing course development time this fall for instructors involved in creating WebCT courses. In September, the TSS Learning Technology Lab will be available Friday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with staff on hand to provide assistance. For more information, call Mary Nairn at Ext. 53571.

## THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of MFA candidate Dado Segota, Fine Art and Music, is Sept. 10 at 7 p.m. in the Zavitz Gallery. The thesis is "Pipe-dream." His adviser is Prof. James Carl.

The final examination of Dimaris Acosta-Mercado, a PhD candidate in the Department of Zoology, is Sept. 26 at 2 p.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "Ecology of Soil Ciliates in a Subtropical Moist Forest in Puerto Rico." The adviser is Prof. Denis Lynn.

The final examination of PhD candidate Christophe Farès, Biophysics Interdepartmental Group, is Oct. 6 at 9 a.m. in Axelrod 337. The thesis is "The Effects of Membrane Dynamics on High-Resolution Static and Magic Angle Spinning NMR of Transmembrane Polypeptides." The co-advisers are Profs. Jim Davis, Physics, and Frances Sharom, Chemistry and Biochemistry.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Guelph Historical Railway Association invites anyone interested in railways to attend one of its regular meetings, which are held on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Co-operators Building downtown. More information is available at [www.ghra.ca](http://www.ghra.ca).

The eighth annual Superwalk for Parkinson's will be held Sept. 20, leaving from Royal City Park at 10 a.m. Registration begins at 9 a.m. For pledge sheets, call 836-9651 or 787-1905. The walk is sponsored by the Guelph and Wellington chapter of the Parkinson Society, which meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Evergreen Centre. Volunteers are needed for both the walk and the meetings. For more details, call 822-7529.

The annual tulip bulb sale in aid of research into Parkinson's disease runs Sept. 12 and 13 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. at Stone Road Mall.

The Bioenterprise Corporation is sponsoring a seminar on "The Power of Positive Linking" with Donna Messer of ConnectUS Communication Canada Oct. 14 at 1:30 p.m. at the Ramada Hotel and Conference Centre. For more information, call 821-2960 or send e-mail to [linda.thompson@bioenterprise.ca](mailto:linda.thompson@bioenterprise.ca).

The Guelph Power and Sail Squadron will hold registration for its safe boating classes Sept. 10 and 17 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at Centennial High School. Classes begin Sept. 24 and are required for anyone wishing to obtain a personal craft operators card. For more information, call 824-2886.

The Canadian Embroiderers' Guild will hold registration for 2003/04 Sept. 16 from 10 a.m. to noon at St. George's Anglican Church, 99 Woolwich St. New members are welcome.

The Wellington County branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society meets Sept. 23 at 7:30 p.m. at the Land Registry Office in the OMAF building, 1 Stone Rd. W. Guest speaker Donna Trevors discusses the new electronic land registry system.

The Fergus Elora Synchronized Skating Club is looking for skaters for its festival-level novice or junior teams. For more information, contact Sally MacLachlan at 846-9726 or [smaclach@agec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:smaclach@agec.uoguelph.ca).

The Canadian Federation of University Women will meet Sept. 23 at 7:30 p.m. at Harpo's Banquet Hall, 89 Dawson Rd. Guest speaker is award-winning writer Mary Swan, a U of G Library staff member.

## Britten Festival Catalyst for One-Time Course

Music, drama professors lead interdisciplinary exploration of renowned composer's work

It would be hard for music lovers living in southwestern Ontario not to learn more about the works and life of 20th-century music icon/composer Benjamin Britten in upcoming months.

A 20-day festival devoted to Britten's art and life in honour of his 90th birthday is being held in five Ontario cities and has been the catalyst for an interdisciplinary course being offered at U of G this fall as both a degree and an interest course.

Titled "Benjamin Britten: Music, Text and Contexts," the course spans genres and audiences. It analyzes the composer's art from the perspectives of drama, English and music. Part of what makes the course unique is that degree students taking it can choose to register it as a credit in any one of those three disciplines.

Course participants will come away from the class with greater knowledge not only of

Britten, who died in 1976, but also of literary works, staging and production, and music history and theory, says music professor Edward Phillips, who is team-teaching the course with drama professor Ann Wilson.

Because there are so many different elements to operatic productions, having music and drama professors teach together makes a lot of sense, says Phillips.

"Musicologists often focus completely on the score of an opera, especially when dealing with recordings rather than staged productions. Prof. Wilson will be able to comment on dramatic structure and subtleties of libretto, which are equally important to the impact of such a piece."

In looking at Britten's music, critics often analyze what impact his homosexuality had on his work. "Many of the authors he's chosen to take his texts from are gay, or the themes of the

stories are gay, or both," says Phillips.

The one-time U of G course will involve discussions of Britten's adaptation of *Billy Budd*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *A Turn of the Screw*. "We're looking at the question of how referential music is by nature," says Phillips. "Just because a composer is black or white or gay or straight, does it necessarily come through in his music?"

In addition to taking part in lectures, course participants will attend and critique the Britten festival productions, listen to operas, read literary works and talk about the presentation of the festival.

"I don't think music is absent from anybody's life in one way or another," says Phillips, "but very rarely does anyone talk critically about it and rarely do students who aren't music majors talk and write critically about it or consider the people who created it — issues

this course will emphasize."

The festival, titled "Benjamin Britten: A Celebration," runs Nov. 9 to 30 in Goderich, Guelph, Kitchener-Waterloo, London and Toronto. It will include 17 performances of opera, oratorio and chamber music — from *War Requiem* with a full orchestra and 250-voice chorus to the fully staged chamber opera *The Prodigal Son* — as well as eight lectures and numerous films with music by Britten.

Artistic director is Nicholas Goldschmidt, former artistic director of the Guelph Spring Festival, first director of music at U of G and a 1984 recipient of a Guelph honorary degree. General director is John Crompton, a leading cultural broker, impresario and producer and a graduate of Guelph's first drama class.

For more information about the festival, visit [www.brittencelebration.com](http://www.brittencelebration.com).

BY RACHELLE COOPER

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G

U E L P H

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TSS electronics technologist Ken Cooke (aka KooKee the Clown) aims to make children smile.  
PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

## He's Not Just Clowning Around

*Shriner feels like he's 'making a difference in the world'*

**B**Y DAY, he's an unassuming electronics technologist with Teaching Support Services. After hours, transformed by greasepaint, a popsicle-orange wig and a technicolour suit to rival Joseph's, Ken Cooke becomes KooKee the Clown.

It was a fellow Shriner's suggestion eight years ago that he'd make a good clown — a remark Cooke took as a compliment — that first made him consider his lighthearted avocation.

"My wife says I've been a clown all my life," says Cooke, whose bicycle helmet is inscribed with "KooKee."

Since then, he has regularly donned his signature outfit to perform at Shriners parades and circuses and to visit children at area hospitals.

His favourite part of the job is coaxing a response from even the most clown-shy child, using a combination of repartee and a grab bag of tricks, including making balloon animals, juggling, face painting and hamming it up with a Super Soaker water gun. "I enjoy working with children and making them smile."

Today, he's the ringleader of a group of five clowns in a local Shriners lodge. Working about 10 parades a year and an annual circus,

the group has helped raise about \$10,000 over the past eight years — money that goes to support a chain of Shriners Hospitals for Children and Shriners Burn Institutes that provide free care to children. All but two of the hospitals are in the United States; the others are in Montreal and Mexico.

Cooke explains that his clowning has a serious side, enabling him to feel that he's "making a difference in the world." In fact, visiting children in hospitals can be downright wrenching, he says. "It breaks your heart — there's no words that can explain it."

His first gig was a Canada Day parade in 1995 in Cambridge. He doesn't recall feeling nervous, just focused on remembering his pointers: playing with the crowd but keeping up with his place in the parade and squatting down to talk to kids to avoid scaring them.

Afterward, he wasn't sure who had enjoyed his appearance more — he or the audience. "I found it very uplifting. The children enjoyed me being the clown."

Cooke has attended "clown school," consisting of a smorgasbord of occasional sessions offered from Brantford to Michigan where would-be clowns can learn the basics

*Continued on page 12*

## OVC Receives \$1M to Link Vets, Students, Faculty

*CANARIE-funded project aims to foster development and use of advanced Internet technologies to address structural barriers to online learning*

**T**HE ONTARIO Veterinary College has received more than \$1 million from CANARIE, Canada's advanced Internet development organization, for a Virtual Veterinary Medicine Learning Community (V2MLC) Project.

The project, which connects veterinary practitioners to students, faculty and resources, is a joint venture between Canada's veterinary colleges and industry sponsors LifeLearn Inc. and the Canadian Institute for Food Inspection and Regulation. It's funded through CANARIE's E-learning program with the support of the federal government. The goal of the program is to foster the development and use of advanced Internet technologies to address structural barriers to online learning.

"Learning is the key to remaining competitive in a knowledge-based economy," says Industry Minister Allan Rock. "Through CANARIE, we will continue to support new and innovative learning initiatives like the V2MLC project, so that Canada

continues to develop, use and benefit from this new technology."

Andrew Bjerring, president and CEO of CANARIE, adds that access to effective education and training is central to a learning society.

"We believe the work being done by the Ontario Veterinary College is important to that community of interest, but we also believe that what they learn can be shared with other members of the community to advance knowledge in Canada."

The online project gives students and veterinarians immediate access to current animal case studies, allowing diagnosis and treatment to be shared among members of the veterinary community, says Gary Smith, OVC's learning technology services co-ordinator and project manager. For example, a pilot project in dermatology headed by Prof. Jan Hall, Clinical Studies, will enable vet clinics to electronically submit case studies of animals with skin conditions. The cases will be assigned to fourth-year OVC students, who will work on them under Hall's

supervision. The final case reports will be reviewed and discussed by Hall, the students and the veterinarians by phone or through video conferencing.

"What we've done is show students more about what veterinary practice is really about," says Hall. "I can see them growing as individuals when they interact with the vets."

The module will also include a database of case studies, searchable by species, breed, diagnosis and presenting complaint. It's scheduled to become available to all veterinarians this fall.

Population medicine professor Kerry Lissimore, a faculty member on the V2MLC team, adds that the project will directly benefit students, who "learn much better if the material is delivered in the context of a real case. Access to these advanced electronic learning technologies facilitates the interaction between clinicians in practice and student veterinarians. It's a positive experience for both parties."

*Continued on page 10*



## A Long Shelf Life

The Guelph Campus Co-operative is celebrating its 90th anniversary this year, making it the oldest student co-operative in North America. Incorporated in 1913 by a group of seven Ontario Agricultural College students, the co-op continues to provide a variety of services to students, including the textbook store in Johnston Hall. Above, co-op employees Wade Zacharias and Heather MacRae show how things are stacking up at the store. The co-op also runs a coffee shop at OVC and is involved in off-campus housing in the form of lodging houses and apartments. Most recently, the organization has become a co-sponsor with the Central Student Association of thecannon.ca, an online community for undergraduate students.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

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# Presidential Task Force to Review Accessibility Issues

Interim report will be important for establishing approach to tuition fee policy

**P**RESIDENT Alastair Summerlee has established a task force to review and make recommendations on issues of accessibility to publicly funded higher education in Ontario, particularly access to the University of Guelph. The task force is made up of U of G faculty, students and staff, with acting provost Maureen Mancuso serving as chair and a student member to be selected as vice-chair. The committee will report directly to the president.

Summerlee anticipates that the

task force's recommendations will be important for establishing an approach to tuition fee policy, as well as the philosophy and approach to financial aid. The recommendations will also be important for suggesting ways to overcome issues that might present barriers to higher education specific to Guelph, he says.

The task force has been asked to present an interim progress report to the president by Jan. 1, 2004. This will be key in determining U of G's approach to the budget for 2004/05.

It's expected that the report will be shared with the University community before the submission of a final version at the end of May.

In addition to Mancuso, the task force consists of Prof. Sally Humphries, Sociology and Anthropology; Prof. John Livernois, Economics; Prof. Janet Wood, Microbiology; registrar Brian Pettigrew; graduate student Brad Dent; and undergraduates David Hornsby, Brandon Reeve and Josh Alcock.

# COU Outlines Shared Goals, Building Blocks for Strong University System in Ontario

**T**HE FUTURES TASK FORCE of the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) has released a brochure on university education called *Shared Goals and Building Blocks*. In it, the task force suggests five goals that are likely to be shared by Ontarians, their government and publicly funded universities for a strong university system.

The brochure also identifies the building blocks that would enable Ontario universities to achieve these goals.

The suggested goals are:

1. All appropriately qualified Ontario students will have access to a

place in an Ontario university.

2. No student will be denied access to the program of his or her choice for financial reasons.

3. The education received by Ontario university students will be the best in Canada and on par with that offered in the best public universities worldwide.

4. Research support will enable Ontario's faculty and students to add valuable knowledge and produce economic and societal benefits to all Ontario residents such that the province secures a reputation for excellence in both its scientific/medical and its humanities/social

sciences research.

5. The physical environment of Ontario universities will be safe, up-to-date and accessible to those with special needs, and will enhance the learning effectiveness of each student's educational experience.

The COU task force says the key building blocks to reach these goals are: improving student financial assistance, hiring adequate numbers of first-rate faculty and staff, sustaining support for research, funding the expansion of graduate programs, and expanding physical facilities as well as modernizing the existing stock.

# When You Give, Everybody Wins

**W**IN THREE WAYS by giving to the 2003 United Way campaign.

First: Your donation will help fund the good work of 46 local organizations in Guelph and Wellington County, and that means a healthier and happier community, says U of G co-chair Toni Pellizzari of the CBS dean's office. "We all win by supporting the United Way."

Second: Your gift will help the University campaign reach its \$285,000 goal. "The University of Guelph community has traditionally topped the list of workplace campaign contributions to United Way Community Services of Guelph and Wellington," says co-chair Prof. Anthony Clarke, assistant vice-president (academic). "That's a wor-

thy title to maintain."

Third: Your pledge card automatically enters you in a series of five incentive prize draws beginning Oct. 9. More than 60 prizes are available, including theatre tickets, haircuts, gift certificates, homemade desserts, maple syrup, pet food and free printing.

Pledge cards will be delivered on campus by volunteer canvassers beginning Oct. 1. A printable version is also available on the United Way campaign Web site at [www.uoguelph.ca/unitedway](http://www.uoguelph.ca/unitedway). To be eligible for all five incentive draws, return your pledge card and donation to the area canvasser by Oct. 8. Donations can be made through payroll deduction, cash or preauthorized cheques or credit card withdrawals.

You can also direct your U of G gift to a United Way agency in another community.

The United Way campus committee will hold its traditional kick-off barbecue Sept. 30 from noon to 2 p.m. on Branson Plaza (rain location is Peter Clark Hall). Throughout the fall, individual departments will also be sponsoring draws, raffles and special events to support the campus campaign. Coming up Oct. 2 is the annual Animal-Care Services barbecue, bake sale, raffle and garage sale from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Central Animal Facility on McGillivray Street. Donations to the garage sale are welcome.

For details of United Way events, prizes and fundraising updates, visit the campaign Web site.

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### COLLEGE OF ARTS SERIES EXPLORES FILM, LITERATURE

The 2003/2004 College of Arts speaker series on "Film and Literature" kicks off this week with presentations by author Christopher Bram and documentary filmmaker Draper Shreeve. Bram, whose novel *Father of Frankenstein* was the basis of the 1998 film *Gods and Monsters*, will attend a screening of the film Sept. 24 at 6:30 p.m. in OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre, to be followed by a question period and reception. Bram will also give a reading from his work Sept. 25 at 7 p.m. in the Pages café. Shreeve will screen his most recent documentary Sept. 25 at 1:30 p.m. in Room 126 of the University of Guelph-Humber building. All events are free.

### SHASTRI PROJECT TO FOCUS ON ENVIRONMENT IN INDIA

The Shastri Applied Research Project, through the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, is launching a new research project this month targeted at environmental management in India. Led by Prof. Clive Southey, Economics, the project will study the socio-economic and policy implications of water restoration in the Yamuna River Basin. Co-investigator is Brij Gopal of Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi.

### MUSIC LAB OPENING SET

The College of Arts and the School of Fine Art and Music will host the grand opening of a new music technology lab Sept. 30 at 3 p.m. in Room 207 of the MacKinnon Building. Designed for teaching and research, the lab will be an invaluable tool for students and faculty, says Prof. John Kissick, director of the school. "It will provide our students with the kind of state-of-the-art technology crucial to the production of cutting-edge contemporary work."

### GLOBAL VETS TO SPEAK

Veterinary science students who participated in OVC's Global Vets program this summer will give public presentations on their experiences. Seventeen students were involved in the program this year, travelling to South America, Africa, Australia, Asia or India to work and learn about international veterinary medicine. Their presentations, which are sponsored by the OVC Alumni Association, run Sept. 25, Sept. 30 and Oct. 2 from 7 to 9 p.m. in Room 1714 of OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre.

### TORONTO ARTIST TO VISIT

The School of Fine Art and Music launches its visiting artist and speaker series for the fall semester Sept. 29 with Janet Morton, a Toronto-based installation fibre artist who transforms common objects by enveloping them in knitting. She will present and discuss her work from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in Room 114 of the MacKinnon Building.

# OVC Launches Accredited Graduate Program in Lab Animal Science

Students will have chance to work at four different facilities during their training

**B**EGINNING THIS FALL, OVC is offering a new doctoral program designed to train veterinarians as specialists in laboratory animal science. This is the only training program outside the United States accredited by the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ACLAM).

"It's an intensely interesting field, offering opportunities to work with a wide range of species," says Prof. Pat Turner, Pathobiology, who is co-ordinating the program. "The program is a great way for someone with a keen interest in lab animal medicine to specialize in a field that's in great demand."

She hopes the program will draw new specialists into a profession that is underserved. There are only five veterinarians board-certified in lab animal science in Canada, says Turner, who estimates there are about 90 people working full time in the field in Canada and 30 or 40 working part time.

"These are people who are stretched and need support," she says. "Last year, there were about 20 positions open in Canada, and many of those were either not filled or filled with veterinarians with no lab animal experience, who had to learn on the job."

Veterinarians specializing in lab animal science contribute in areas such as comparative medicine and pathology, animal modelling, facility administration and experimental design. They typically work in universities, academic hospitals, biotechnology or pharmaceutical industries or government.

Vets who choose a board-certified program such as the one offered by OVC can write ACLAM certification exams immediately after completing the program, whereas others must work in the field for six years before seeking board certification. Turner says that although many vets choose to specialize in this field by learning on the job rather than through graduate work, the graduate program offers some opportunities that are hard to find in the workplace and may open doors to career advancement and financial incentives.

One of the advantages the program offers students is the chance to work at four different facilities



Lise Phaneuf, right, is the first student in a new doctoral program in laboratory animal science co-ordinated by Prof. Pat Turner, Pathobiology.

PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

through the course of their training: U of G's Animal Health Laboratory and Animal-Care Services, McMaster University, the University of Toronto Health Network and the University of Western Ontario.

"Students will gain a lot of expertise from seeing how other facilities operate," says Turner. "They'll also be able to work with a larger range of species than if they spent all their time at one facility."

Lise Phaneuf, a 1998 DVM graduate of OVC who is enrolling in the graduate program this fall, says she likes the idea of "being able to see what's out there while I'm still in the program. I was also attracted to the flexibility this program offered. I could work in a lab, the pharmaceutical industry, a university or a medical school."

Plans are already under way to offer other learning opportunities in lab animal science, including a diploma training program for veterinarians working in the field.

"There is a need for distance education for people already pursuing lab animal careers, and we hope to

develop this over the next two or three years, along with collaborators from other schools," says Prof. Wayne McDonnell, OVC's assistant dean (research and graduate affairs). "The need for people working in laboratory animal medicine, the value of the animals and the complexity of care required have all increased in the past 10 to 20 years. They're dealing with very advanced medical and surgical procedures."

The new grad program builds on a similar one offered at OVC by Prof. Dean Percy. Turner was Percy's last graduate student in the program before he retired in 1997.

"Needless to say, I'm really pleased," says Percy. "It's a very sophisticated and complete program; it's obviously in very capable hands."

Turner says plans for the new program flourished with support from the Canadian Association for Laboratory Animal Medicine, the Department of Pathobiology, Percy and the four institutions that will host graduate students during their practical training.

BY KAREN GALLANT, OVC

## PEOPLE

### PROF NAMED TO WATER BOARD

Prof. John FitzGibbon, School of Environmental Design and Rural Development, is one of 10 people appointed by the Ontario government to the board of directors for the Clean Water Centre of Excellence to be based in Walkerton. The board will oversee co-ordination of training programs in the drinking water field and will lead the centre's efforts to promote environmentally sound water stewardship and increase public understanding of water quality issues.

### REPORT EXAMINES MIGRANT FARM WORKERS' PROGRAM

This summer, government representatives of Canada, Mexico, Barbados, Jamaica, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and Trinidad and Tobago met in Ottawa to review the preliminary research reports of a study on Canada's migrant agricultural workers' program. Prof. Kerry Preibisch, Sociology and Anthropology, is one of the study's principal researchers. She directed the research component that explored labour relations as well as the social relations practices between migrant agricultural workers and the residents of rural Ontario communities. A final report will be published next year.

### NASBY A VISITING SCHOLAR

Judith Nasby, director of the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre, was recently a distinguished international visiting scholar at the Center for American Material Culture Studies, University of Delaware. She spoke on Canadian Inuit drawings and participated in a panel discussion with Peter Irniq, commissioner for Nunavut, on "Issues in Contemporary Inuit Art."

### CBIE GRANTS TO TWO

Two U of G undergraduate students have received international learning grants from the Canadian Bureau for International Education to study abroad as part of an exchange program. Amy Keuhl has received support to travel to India, and Wendy Taylor will study in Poland.

## APPOINTMENTS

Josef Ackerman of the University of Northern British Columbia joined the Faculty of Environmental Sciences as associate dean July 1.

Ray Geor was appointed associate professor with tenure in the Department of Biomedical Sciences Sept. 1.

Antonio Cruz was appointed assistant professor in the Department of Clinical Studies Aug. 1.

Bill Smith of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology has been appointed to a three-year term as adjunct professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, effective July 1.

Ioana Sonea was appointed associate professor with tenure in the Department of Biomedical Sciences July 18.

Margaret Stalker joined the Department of Pathobiology as an assistant professor Aug. 1.

# Power Outage Focus of Meeting

**A** MEETING of the emergency steering committee that directed the University's response to the province-wide power outage in August was held to discuss lessons learned from this situation and how these can be applied in refining plans to provide continuity of critical University operations in emergency situations.

It was agreed that the University community responded very positively to the many challenges posed by the power outage, but that this province-wide emergency situation highlighted the need to ensure that operational preparedness plans exist at unit levels, as well as at the institutional level.

The steering committee is re-

viewing comments and recommendations received from members of the University community, and will be consulting over the next several months with units across campus to ensure that U of G's plans and procedures recognize the need for flexibility in responding to situations that cannot be fully anticipated in advance.

# 'We Can't Allow Another Walkerton to Occur'

Environmental engineer brings wide range of international experience to Canada Research Chair in Water Supply Security

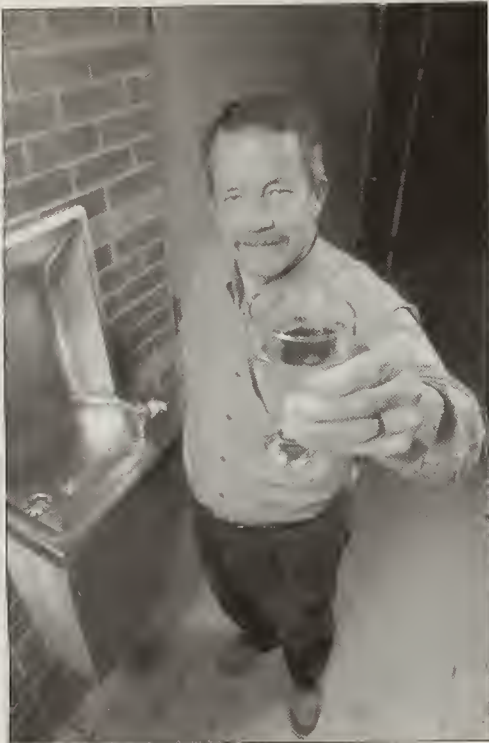
**S**COOPING UP some water from India's Ganges River one day, Prof. Ed McBean was approached by a resident who asked what he was doing. His explanation — that he was testing the water for impurities as part of his work with an international environmental engineering company — was met with incredulity.

"This is sacred, it can't be polluted," his interlocutor told him. McBean pauses for a beat, then adds with more than a bit of understatement: "It certainly can be."

He should know. A longtime environmental engineer and risk management specialist, he joined U of G this summer as holder of a Canada Research Chair in Water Supply Security. Assessing water supply systems and helping decision-makers find ways to make those systems safer in Canada and abroad is the purpose of his new position in the School of Engineering.

Applying the tools of statistics and mathematical modelling to waterworks, McBean studies what engineers call the "fate and transport" of chemicals and other contaminants in water and their impact on water quality. Until this summer, he studied those problems not as an academic but as vice-president of Conestoga-Rovers & Associates. With head offices in Waterloo, the company employs 1,500 people among 55 offices in North America and consults on a variety of projects from site remediation to municipal infrastructure to landfills.

Working alongside experts from the World Bank and the United Nations, McBean consulted on dozens of water supply projects in 40 countries in North and South America,



Ensuring that drinking water is safe is one of Prof. Ed McBean's research goals. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Southeast Asia, Eastern Europe and the Middle East. Here in North America, his work ranged from assessing possible contamination of drinking water by farm chemicals in San Francisco to studying land-use impacts on groundwater in Kitchener-Waterloo.

McBean says his overseas experiences gave him a different perspective on water supply and quality issues, particularly compared with North American standards. In many parts of the world, people survive on no more water each day than Canadians use to flush a toilet once. He's

watched people fill containers from ditches of putrid water. "I've seen water in rivers that looked like it was going uphill because there was so much foam."

Despite the wide range of work he was involved in, McBean found himself chafing. "The difficulty with consulting is that there's not a lot of time to investigate things. I really like looking at problems in-depth."

Formerly a professor at the University of Waterloo for 21 years, he was planning to return to academia when the opening at Guelph came along.

"I like to know why things work the way they do, the fundamentals, and that's what professors are all about. I've always been interested in what can be changed to make it better."

Still keeping an eye on the developing world, McBean plans to study ultraviolet rays in sunlight for possible use in water treatment, not on the scale of municipal systems but of individual households without access to chlorination. (A former student's thesis investigated the use of various containers, including soft drink bottles, for such a homegrown system.)

Recently, he was invited to serve on an advisory committee for the Sustainable Cities Initiative (SCI), a federally funded project to promote sustainable economic development in nine countries worldwide. In one SCI project in Brazil, landfill gases that might contaminate groundwater supplies are being used to light a soccer field. "We're collecting the gas and generating electricity for use by the people who live near the landfill."

Here at home, McBean will be

studying statistics to help improve the reliability and safety of water supply systems, including looking at vulnerability to natural disasters, design flaws or sabotage. By working with government agencies on analyzing time-series data and pinpointing anomalies, he also expects to help identify potential health or environmental problems.

Referring to managerial errors that led to contamination of drinking water in Walkerton — resulting in the deaths of seven people and illness in thousands of others — he says: "We can't allow another Walkerton to occur."

McBean traces his interest in the environment back to a day in the early 1960s when he was sitting on the back porch of his parents' home in Vancouver. He could smell a pulp mill that was 30 kilometres away and remembers thinking: "This isn't acceptable."

When he began studying at the University of British Columbia, he intended to become a structural engineer like his older brother, but shifted to environmental engineering in his second year. After finishing his undergraduate degree, he headed off with a scholarship to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he earned his M.Sc. and Ph.D.

McBean has written a number of books on landfill engineering and waste energy recovery, use of statistics in environmental monitoring and risk assessment, and groundwater pollution control. He's teaching hydrology to students in both environmental engineering and water resources engineering programs, and will teach a graduate course in risk assessment.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

## How Does Your Garden Grow?

Extremely well, says campus gardener, as long as people aren't helping themselves to the flowers

**B**OTANY PROFESSOR Larry Peterson was in luck. Nipping out of his office in the Axelrod Building one mid-September morning to visit the Conservatory Garden, he ran into Andy Grossauer, a gardener with U of G's Grounds Department.

Peterson's request was simple enough. "I need to have a few impatiens petals for my lab this afternoon."

Grossauer told him to help himself. He might have added: If only a few other garden visitors were so polite.

By the middle of September, impatiens, day lilies and coneflowers were still out in force in the Conservatory Gardens, and the late-season bloomers were preparing for a final trumpet blast of colour. It'll be a few weeks, maybe even months, before the frost and snow bring an end to this year's garden symphony.

Meanwhile, there's still plenty to see and sniff in the garden, particularly in the Autumn Garden (sponsored by the Ontario Agricultural

College class of 1951, it is one of six thematic gardens in the complex). And we're in for at least a few more weeks of seasonable weather that will permit visitors to stroll the garden complex or take a lunch hour or coffee break on a bench in the gardens.

Those gardens — located right outside the University Centre and easily accessible along wide pathways — are hard to miss. Grossauer says that, for all their visibility and accessibility, the gardens remain trouble-free most of the time. But at times they're difficult to protect from passersby armed with scissors or spades, vandals or just plain thoughtlessness.

Take move-in weekend earlier this month, he says. He returned the following week to find that someone had driven a vehicle over roses planted next to the sidewalk closest to the University Centre.

Grossauer says every summer since the gardens were established four years ago, there have been four or five incidents of vandalism or theft in the gardens.

He doesn't know who's responsible for the occasional snipping of blooms that's occurred. He's caught only one person in the act, and when he confronted her, she said she was making a bouquet of tulips for her sister, whom she hadn't seen in two years. His reply: "Excuse me, why don't you go to the flower shop?"

Some perennials have also been dug out, not common cultivars like coneflowers but hostas and unusual forms of wild grasses. "It's somebody who has a garden because they're taking the more rare stuff." He adds that these cases of theft could be visitors to campus rather than members of the University community.

This fall, someone stole a potted plant that he had left rejuvenating beside the conservatory. "I was trying to nurse it back to health and it was gone."

Occasional acts of vandalism in the garden include broken benches and uprooted plants discarded on the grounds or even thrown into the pond. One year, Grossauer planted flowers in the urn that stands at the

centre of the walkways, but they were ripped out and scattered around.

He says he would call the University police if he caught anyone digging up plants or damaging benches. What if a staff or faculty member sees someone in the act? "They should be reminding people that the gardens are here for everyone's enjoyment."

Says Peterson: "I would approach them and say, 'Please don't do this, this is University property.' The thing I can never understand is why people have to be so destructive."

Grossauer has put up a snow fence on the northwest corner near-

est Axelrod to prevent people from cutting through and trampling plants. After the roses were driven over, he stuck several posts into the beds to keep vehicles away. He says it would be a shame if more stringent measures had to be taken.

"It's too nice an area to have restrictions, and the fact is, we shouldn't have to."

The garden complex and restored conservatory greenhouse were opened in June 1999 during Alumni Weekend. Alumni gifts accounted for most of the fundraising for the \$1-million project.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

### @GUELPH PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

| Publication Date | Deadline | Publication Date | Deadline |
|------------------|----------|------------------|----------|
| Oct. 8           | Sept. 30 | Dec. 3           | Nov. 25  |
| Oct. 22          | Oct. 15  | Jan. 14          | Jan. 6   |
| Nov. 5           | Oct. 28  | Jan. 28          | Jan. 20  |
| Nov. 19          | Nov. 11  | Feb. 11          | Feb. 3   |

# Allowing Voluntary Vaccination Would Cut Immunization Rates, Study Says

Mathematicians analyse smallpox vaccination policy

**V**OLUNTARY vaccination policies for diseases such as smallpox could result in increased mortality rates, says Prof. Chris Bauch, Mathematics and Statistics.

In a study published this month in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, Bauch says self-interest would prevail over group interest with voluntary vaccination policies, making it difficult to maintain persistently high levels of immunization.

For example, he and researchers from McMaster University and the University of California at Berkeley showed that making smallpox vaccinations voluntary in the United States could result in a significant increase in expected mortality — an average of 22 per cent — after an outbreak.

"Self-interest appears to impede voluntary vaccination policies," says Bauch, who joined U of G in July and conducted the research as a post-doctoral fellow at McMaster. He chose to focus on the U.S. smallpox vaccination policy "because it has re-emerged recently as a public health issue. The threat of bioterrorism has fuelled debate on the policy in the States, with some proposals calling for voluntary mass vaccination."

Currently, the U.S. policy calls for mandatory smallpox vaccination of its 500,000 military personnel and voluntary vaccination of up to 10 million "first responders," mostly health-care workers. Starting in 2004, voluntary vaccination will also be available to the general public.

"Because of the lack of information on smallpox transmission in contemporary populations, mathematical modelling has an especially important role to play in policy development," says Bauch.

To compare the U.S. population's optimal vaccination level with the level that might actually be

achieved under a voluntary program, he and his colleagues performed a first-ever mathematical analysis of the U.S. smallpox vaccination policy using game theory and epidemic modelling. Game theory is a mathematical analysis of how individuals make decisions in groups when the impact of their decision depends on the decisions reached by others in the group.

"If individuals decide whether to vaccinate according to self-interest, the level of immunity achieved may differ from that which is best for the population as a whole," he says. "This potential dilemma motivated our investigation, and our game-theoretical model formalized this conflict between self-interest and group interest."

Bauch and the researchers analyzed a large number of plausible scenarios for smallpox outbreaks in the United States. For most of these scenarios, the findings were the same: making smallpox vaccinations strictly voluntary increased expected mortality rates.

"All else being equal, self-interested decision-making can cause vaccine coverage levels to fall short," he says.

The game theory approach is applicable to vaccination policies for other diseases as well, Bauch adds. He hopes to build more realism and predictive power into the model for future research.

"This analysis highlights the potential value of game theory in the evaluation and development of public health policy."

The *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* is one of the world's most cited multidisciplinary scientific periodicals. It publishes cutting-edge reports, commentaries, reviews, perspectives and colloquium papers in the biological, physical and social sciences.

BY LORI BONA HUNT

## the science of life the art of living

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

## Private, Public Donations Recognized at Rozanski Hall Opening

**P**RIVATE AND PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS to two major campus building projects were recognized and celebrated Sept. 5 at the official opening of Rozanski Hall, U of G's new classroom complex named for former president Mordechai Rozanski. At the event, president Alastair Summerlee acknowledged the outstanding support Guelph's fundraising campaign has received for the classroom complex and the new science complex from the provincial SuperBuild program and from private donors.

First order of business was the dedication of the Bosch clock that sits four storeys high on the front of the classroom facility. It was donated by Martin Bosch, a 1969 B.Sc. and 1971 M.Sc. Guelph chemistry graduate who is now working on his PhD. His \$50,000 donation provided for the clock and its installation and will cover maintenance costs for the next several years.

After the dedication, Summerlee and Guelph-Wellington MPP Brenda Elliott cut the ribbon to open the doors to Rozanski Hall. David Lindsay, president and CEO of the Ontario SuperBuild Corporation, then unveiled a SuperBuild plaque just inside the west doors.

Inside the building, Summerlee recognized the

\$500,000 U of G Alumni Association (UGAA) gift that resulted in the creation of the alumni concourse. The UGAA logo dominates the concourse floor, and the back wall — made of stone salvaged from the barn originally located on the site — sports display cases dedicated to alumni involvement. This will serve to remind the thousands of students who pass by each day that being a member of the U of G family extends well beyond graduation.

Next up was the unveiling of a sign for the 400-seat Arrell Auditorium by Tony Arrell, a 1967 OAC graduate and former Board of Governors member, and his wife, Anne, B.H.5c. '68, who donated \$500,000 to "The Science of Life, the Art of Living" campaign.

Contributions to the other major SuperBuild project on campus, the science complex, were recognized via a PowerPoint presentation by CBS dean Michael Emes, who discussed the importance of the complex to teaching and research at U of G.

Following his talk, Summerlee, Elliott and Lindsay did a virtual groundbreaking for the complex by pushing a button that initiated a drum roll and produced an image of the future building.

## Learning Guide Taps Into Prof's Experiences in the Classroom

From science to business, there's a common set of problems that students encounter

**H**ELPING STUDENTS learn how to learn is the purpose of a new book written by Prof. Jack Trevors, Environmental Biology, and Guelph PhD graduate Michael Cassidy. Published this month by Western Extension College Educational Publishers, *The Learning Zone: A Student's Guide to Lifelong Learning* is intended as a guide for university students as well as for high school, college and adult learners.

Referring to the title, Trevors says: "You have to put yourself into a zone or mindset that allows you to learn to the best of your abilities."

The roughly 100-page book discusses the transition to post-secondary education, personal skills and values, specific learning tips, time management ideas, goal-setting and self-assessment, and next steps

after graduation. Short appendices discuss science skills, note-taking (including mind maps) and additional references.

Cassidy, who did his PhD and a post-doctoral fellowship with Trevors, is now co-ordinator of the food safety science unit in the food safety policy branch of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food in Guelph. He is also an associate faculty member in the Department of Environmental Biology and teaches part time at the University of Waterloo.

Craig Yarmey, a financial planner in Guelph, contributed the book's chapter on financial management.

"Every year, students ask me the same questions, which means they have the same problems," says Trevors, who has taught for more

than 20 years and started thinking about writing a book five years ago. From science to business, he says, "there's a common set of problems or challenges that students encounter, both in high school and in college and university."

He found that many of those questions had less to do with the nuts and bolts of his courses in environmental microbiology and biotechnology and more to do with how to learn more effectively.

"Time management is the number-one problem of all incoming students," he says.

The handbook discusses that issue and other skills useful both inside and outside the classroom: analytical thinking, communication, writing, computing, networking, making presentations and working alone or in teams.

Trevors says this book differs from other learning guides with its focus on lifelong learning and its discussion of the authors' learning philosophy. "We focus on skills you will use for your entire life."

Trevors is editor-in-chief of the journal *Water, Air and Soil Pollution*. He has edited two textbooks — one on soil microbiology and the other on nucleic acids in the environment — as well as hundreds of journal articles. He is the only Canadian adviser to the *Journal of Biological Education*, published by the Institute of Biology in the United Kingdom.

The handbook will be available at the campus bookstore, at other bookstores off campus and from the publisher at 306-373-6399 or [www.westernextension.com](http://www.westernextension.com).

BY ANDREW VOWLES

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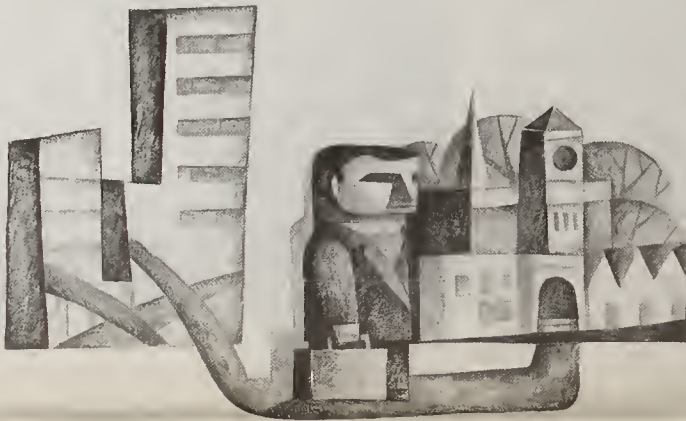
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# COERCION NOT THE WAY TO DRAW IMMIGRANTS TO SMALL TOWNS

*"We cannot attract immigrants to Canada, expect them to give up their occupations and then cast them about our country like pawns on a chessboard"*

BY HARALD BAUDER



**M**ORE THAN A YEAR AGO, Denis Coderre announced that his Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration would be tinkering with a plan to channel immigrants to rural areas and smaller settlements in an effort to divert them from Canada's major cities. This plan would contractually lock some highly skilled workers, including medical professionals, into jobs and settlement in rural areas for three to five years, in exchange for immigration status.

Since last year, we haven't heard much about this plan. In the meantime, Quebec Immigration Minister Michelle Courchesne is reportedly searching for the "missing link" to encourage immigrants to settle outside of Montreal. In fact, rural areas and small towns throughout Canada are crying out for more doctors, nurses and other skilled workers.

Now, a new study of census data suggests that tackling the economic integration of immigrants through some sort of rural enticement policy may be a worthwhile pursuit.

The study shows that recent immigrants to British Columbia who settle in Victoria or smaller cities like Kelowna, Nanaimo or Prince George tend to do better in the labour market than those who settle in Greater Vancouver. For example, 80 per cent of recent immigrant men in Victoria and 83 per cent in smaller settlements participate in the labour force, compared with 64 per cent in Greater Vancouver. Among women, 70 per cent in Victoria and smaller places are in the labour force, compared with only 51 per cent of recent immigrants in Vancouver.

Likewise, the average income of newcomers who live in smaller settlements is higher than that of immigrants who live in Vancouver. Recent immigrant men averaged well above \$22,000 in places outside Greater Vancouver, as opposed to only \$17,350 in the city. Recent immigrant women in Victoria earned almost \$16,000, whereas their counterparts in Vancouver averaged slightly more than \$12,000.

Smaller places and rural areas seem to reward immigrants more generously than big gateway cities do.

The underperformance of immigrants in Vancouver and their relative economic success in smaller settlements is consistent across educational categories. Self-selection by the most skilled immigrants to settle in smaller places can therefore be ruled out as an explanation for the rural-urban labour market differences.

Any attempt to revive the discussion of rural settlement must recognize the nature of the immigrant experience and the underlying workings of the immigrant labour market in differ-

ent communities. Skilled professionals, especially foreign doctors and nurses, are exactly the immigrants who are least likely to have their foreign occupational and educational credentials recognized by Canadian regulatory bodies. Stripped of their ability to practise their profession, they have difficulty finding employment and are pushed into occupations with low pay.

For these newcomers, the large immigrant and ethnic communities of Vancouver—or Toronto or Montreal—can create vital opportunities or they can stifle economic success. Consider the following scenario: an immigrant family settles in a gateway city with a large immigrant community. This community passes on vital information about job openings, immigrant entrepreneurs hire co-ethnic workers, and demand for ethnic specialty goods and services provides opportunities to start a business. In this scenario, our immigrant family benefits from locating in an immigrant gateway city.

Another scenario, however, paints a less rosy picture. Newcomers must line up at the end of a long labour queue behind immigrants and ethnic groups who arrived in Canada earlier, have developed effective social and economic networks and have already gained Canadian work experience. Even if an immigrant finds a job, it's in the lower end of the labour market, perhaps in a sweatshop or in the underground economy. Under this second scenario, Canada's gateway cities constrain economic opportunities for immigrants, and they would be better off settling in rural areas, where these constraints are absent.

Following from this second scenario, the presence of large ethnic and immigrant communities is not always associated with improved employment conditions for newcomers. Chinese-born immigrants, for example, are less likely to be un-

employed in Nanaimo and Prince George, where the Chinese communities are relatively small compared with Vancouver. Likewise, South Asians, one of B.C.'s other major immigrant groups, have higher unemployment rates in places with a large South Asian presence, such as Abbotsford, about an hour east of Vancouver.

Based on these statistics, Coderre's initial proposal to encourage immigrants to seek economic opportunities outside Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver has merit—in principle. Unfortunately, the suggested measures to implement the plan are unacceptable from a civil-rights perspective.

The plan intended to deport immigrants who break the terms of their employment and settlement agreement. This was condemned by immigration advocates as coercion and by legal experts as a violation of the Charter of Rights and

Freedoms. We cannot attract immigrants to Canada, expect them to give up their occupations and then cast them about our country like pawns on a chessboard.

The most promising aspect of the minister's proposal was to persuade provincial professional and trades regulating bodies to recognize the credentials of immigrants. This measure would, in fact, solve Quebec's dilemma, cited by Courchesne, that immigrants who settle outside Montreal can't match available jobs with their credentials—without having to compromise immigrants' basic rights to freedom of movement within Canada.

Immigrants who are stripped of their credentials cannot be lured to small towns with jobs they can't pursue. They will instead follow the bright lights of the city, where a wider range of jobs in the low-wage and informal sector exists.

On the other hand, once highly skilled and experienced workers are able to work in their occupations, they will be attracted to existing employment opportunities in smaller cities and even remote rural locations, which Canadian professionals reject. After all, most immigrants come to Canada to work, not to indulge in the amenities and glamour of the city.

We all—immigrants and Canadians alike—would benefit from having workers where they're needed most. If immigrants are given the chance to practise their professions, they will go to places where secure employment exists, including smaller cities and rural towns.

Prof. Harald Bauder is a faculty member in the Department of Geography. @Guelph "Insight" columns reflect the views of their authors.

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## LIGHTING A SPARK

*Fire ecologist's academic career was fuelled by an interest in organic agriculture*

BY LORI BONA HUNT

**L**IKE MANY CANADIANS, geography professor Kiyoko Miyanishi was mesmerized by news reports of the devastating forest fires that ravaged Okanagan Mountain Park in Kelowna, B.C. She was drawn in by the images of fleeing residents, out-of-control flames, colossal clouds of black smoke and acres of charred mountainside, not to mention the "happy ending" stories, usually involving someone's home being left virtually untouched while everything around it was reduced to rubble.

But it wasn't the human drama or devastation that held Miyanishi's attention. It was the way the fire behaved, its movement and patterns and the way it was battled. To her, a wild-fire is chemistry and physics in motion, a crucial player in the ecological game of life. Once the flames are extinguished, new beginnings start to stir beneath the smoldering forest floor, she explains. Life that is reliant on such natural disasters can finally begin.

"Today, humans obviously play a role in the frequency of wildfires, but they are still a part of our natural environment," says Miyanishi, who co-edited the book *Forest Fires: Behaviour and Ecological Effects* with her husband, Edward Johnson, a biological sciences professor at the University of Calgary. Published in 2001, the book is the first to blend the chemistry and physics of forest fires in relation to fire behaviour and the effect on ecosystems.

"The fact that some plants have adapted to fire — are even dependent on it — tells us that fire has been part of their environment through evolutionary times," says Miyanishi, a fire ecologist who joined U of G in 1986. That's why understanding the ecological science of forest fires, using that knowledge as a basis for management practices and allowing fires to run their natural course is the best strategy, she says.

"People tend to look at forest fires merely as a threat to safety and property or as something that took away the green trees that were once there. They don't see fires for what they really are, which is a natural part of the forest."

Miyanishi began studying forest fires out of her interest in the role disturbance plays in the dynamics of plant populations and communities. Fire is one of the most destructive and beneficial agitators in the wild, she says. Her research has taken her to tropical and temperate savannas, to boreal and subalpine forests in Canada and Belize and to the Fire Science Centre at the University of New Brunswick as a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) post-doctoral researcher. Her work is supported within NSERC's Network of Centres of Excellence in Sustainable Forest Management at the University of Alberta.

Over in Miyanishi's office in the Hutt Building, she holds up a branch from a lodgepole pine tree, which has tiny, odd-looking, tightly closed cones clinging to it. She explains that most trees produce cones that release seeds annually, but the cones of some trees, such as the lodgepole pine, don't open without assistance. "They just stay on the tree, accumulating over several years."

Unless, that is, there's a fire. Then, the heat melts the resin holding the cones closed, opening them up and freeing the seeds.

Fire also clears the forest floor of duff — the layer of decaying leaves and plant materials — exposing the mineral soil that seeds need to germinate and grow. In addition, the blaze kills surrounding trees that were providing too much shade for off-spring of the sun-loving variety to prosper.

"This tree is obviously adapted for fire," says Miyanishi. "Fire creates the ideal conditions for it to re-establish and regenerate."

She and other ecologists have long been aware of this benefit



and the many other effects forest fires have on tree population dynamics, diversity and vegetation patterns.

"But we didn't understand the physical processes of fires that have been studied in engineering, chemistry, mathematics and physics. I once visited an area after a fire and saw a group of trees that were still green, while everything around them burned. I wanted to know what caused that."

So Miyanishi and Johnson, whom she met at a conference and married in 1994 (they have homes in both Guelph and Calgary), brought together physical scientists who work on fires to contribute chapters in their collaborative book in an attempt to explain these processes to ecologists and foresters.

"The whole purpose was for us to understand the physical processes of fire and for them to understand their relevance to fire ecology."

Her contribution was a chapter on the science and effects of smoldering combustion, the process that takes place in the forest floor after the flames have subsided. The floor continues to smoulder, much like the red coals on a barbecue. Ecologists know why it's beneficial, she says, but not as much about the scientific side of what keeps the duff smoldering and prevents it from bursting into flames or being extinguished.

She and Johnson are currently working on a second book based on the same approach, expanding it to include other natural disturbances such as wind, ice storms, erosion and flooding.

Miyanishi's research, now such an integral part of her life, is far removed from the career path she originally followed. She started her professional life as a psychologist and was a "city person. I was never even interested in gardening." That makes ecology and physical geography an unlikely and odd choice for a change in careers.

Ask her why she made the switch and you'll hear a story about a life that just sort of fell into place, thanks to flunking out of graduate school, living and teaching in Africa, and spending a couple of years travelling around Europe and living in communes.

The story begins with Miyanishi's undergraduate years at the University of Winnipeg. "I always intended to study chemistry as an undergraduate, but I wasn't a good student, at least

not in my first year, because, well, I skipped a lot of classes. The only course I did well in was psychology, so it seemed the path of least resistance was to go into psychology."

After graduation, she started a psychology graduate program at Ohio State University, but lasted only a year. "After I came back to Canada, my parents said: 'At least finish a master's degree,' so I enrolled at the University of Toronto. But my heart wasn't in it, and again, I never went to class. I flunked out."

She went to work for the Toronto School Board as a psychologist, but soon grew restless. "I was starting to think that maybe psychology wasn't my calling."

She and a friend devised a plan that involved working for a year, saving up enough money to buy a Volkswagen bus and driving to South America.

"We started studying Spanish. Then we met a friend from East Africa and switched to learning Swahili in preparation for going to Africa. But I'm not good at saving money, and at the end of the year, my friend had saved up the money and I hadn't."

Walking down a street in Toronto one day, Miyanishi happened by a CUSO (Canadian Universities Services Overseas) office. "I walked right in and said: 'I want to go to Africa,' and they said: 'We don't need psychologists, we need teachers.' But I was persistent." It turned out a *psychologist was needed in Zambia for the Ministry of Education.*

"When I got there, once again I wasn't into psychology, so as soon as I got the chance, I transferred to a school in the bush, in the middle of nowhere. It turned out I was the only person there who had ever studied any chemistry in university, so I became the chemistry teacher."

She married for the first time while teaching for CUSO, and after two years, she and her husband took a leave to travel around Africa and Europe. "We did the whole hippie thing, living in communes for a couple of years."

After returning to Africa to teach in Botswana, Miyanishi inherited a gigantic stack of *Organic Gardening* magazines from a teacher who was leaving the school. "I read through all of them and produced the most amazing garden. It was like a lush jungle."

Another teacher at the school with a background in agriculture also had a garden, but was having less luck using fertilizer and traditional methods. "I knew there had to be a scientific explanation for why my garden was doing better without chemicals, that there must be something in the soil. And I wanted to know what it was."

When Miyanishi returned to Canada, she enrolled at the University of Western Ontario, taking a range of classes in biology and ecology. "I found it all so fascinating. I went back to school only because I was interested in learning how I made those plants grow in Africa and ended up being talked into entering a graduate program. That was the start of my second career."

She completed a master's degree in plant sciences at Western and went on to earn a doctorate in geography from York University.

As we sit in her office talking about the path that ultimately led to our discussion about the wildfires on Okanagan Mountain, Miyanishi says her experiences have given her valuable insights.

"Students will come up to me and say they don't know what to do when they finish school. They're worried that they don't know what they want to be. I tell them that many of us don't figure that out until we've gone out into the world. How do you know what you really want to do unless you try different things? You just never know where you're going to end up. Look at me."

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWABE

# 2003 PRESIDENT'S & CH

## Thirteen of Canada's brightest young scholars bring v



### Farah Bhanji

**F**arah Bhanji plans to dedicate her life to making a difference in the developing world. She's already made an impressive start. As a student at St. Clement's School in Toronto, she spent her evenings tutoring newly arrived Afghan refugees. Last March break, she helped build an orphanage in the Dominican Republic.

Bhanji completed more than 850 hours of community service in high school. She single-handedly organized a used eyeglass collection for Operation Eyesight Universal, acquiring some 500 pairs of glasses from her school's student population of 425. She received numerous community service awards, including the Round Square King Constantine Medal, the Lieutenant-Governor's Community Volunteer Award, the Graduate Leadership Award and the Canadian Association of Independent School's Bruce M. Hicks Public Service Award.

Bhanji also maintained a mid-90s academic average, received a Local Excellence Award from the Millennium Scholarship Foundation and earned the 1star Student of the Year and arts and culture awards. She won competitions in French public speaking; excelled in cross-country, soccer and badminton; and was a member of the senior choir.

At U of G, she plans to study development education. "Twenty years down the road, I see myself working to promote education in Afghanistan. When peace and stability return to that country, there is nothing I desire more than to play a positive role to ensure that Afghani children have access to a good education."



### Tina Costeloe

**T**ina Costeloe has a passion for Canada's aquatic environments. A Girl Guide since the age of five, she dreams of one day playing a role in protecting the world's waters.

"I have observed first-hand the gradual degradation of our lakes and the decline in population of frogs and turtles," she says. "As Canada is the custodian of more than 25 per cent of the planet's fresh water, we have a moral obligation to maintain the quality of this valuable resource."

To this end, Costeloe is studying water resources engineering at U of G and plans to become a professional engineer. An avid wilderness canoeing enthusiast, she has worked as a canoe tripping instructor and lifeguard and has volunteered at summer camps. She has represented Girl Guides of Canada around the world, earning her Canada Cord and the Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

At St. Dominic Catholic Secondary School in Bracebridge, Costeloe was on the honour roll every semester and earned a Canadian Merit Scholarship Foundation Regional Award. She was also student council president, vice-president of the Outers Club, a peer tutor and a member of the yearbook staff and athletic association.

Inspired by her older brother, she is also a dedicated activist and advocate for the rights of the developmentally disabled. In Grade 5, she led a successful campaign to keep special-needs children in her elementary school.



### Maryam Dosani

**M**aryam Dosani is recognized for both academic and athletic achievement. At Lawrence Park Collegiate Institute in Toronto, she received four proficiency awards in history and French immersion. She also earned the graduating English award with a 99-per-cent average and maintained an overall average of 92.9 per cent throughout high school.

A national-level baton twirler, Dosani was the 2002 provincial freestyle winner, and her team held several gold medals from the Canadian Baton Twirling Championships. "My 13 years as a baton twirler have taught me more than I ever wanted to know about commitment, teamwork, perseverance, setbacks and success," she says. She also played on the rugby team, competing at the regional and provincial levels.

An avid writer, Dosani helped revive her school newspaper and was promoted to editor within a year. She also contributed to the French newspaper and was assistant yearbook editor. In addition, she co-ordinated the debate team, founded a Women in Physics Club, served on student council and was a peer tutor. In the community, she was a volunteer swim instructor for children with special needs and was a volunteer and mentor for

Reach for the Rainbow, an agency for disabled youth. She is studying history at U of G and plans to become an attorney.



### Delaney Greig

**D**elaney Greig is dedicated to social change and sees service to her community as a central part of her life. While attending E.L. Crossley Secondary School in Fonthill, she developed a Think Food program that involves her school serving as a drop-off site for used ink cartridges that food banks exchange for resources. She co-ordinated food drives, was the donations organizer for Women's Place of South Niagara and spent her summers working as a camp lifeguard and counsellor. She also served as the international director of her school's junior rotary club.

"My drive to learn about the world and improve life for those in need has led me to select international development studies as my main educational pursuit at university," says Delaney. She dreams of one day working with the United Nations, developing infrastructure and programs to help address the AIDS situation in Africa.

Her many contributions and hours of community service were recognized with an Optimist Club of Niagara Falls Youth Appreciation Award, a YWCA Youth Leadership Award and an Excellence in Education Award from her school board. She was also a member of her school's UN debating team, a volunteer tutor, a member of the cross-country team and Think Bowl Team, and a representative on the School Advisory Council. And she did all this while maintaining an academic average over 90 per cent.



### David Hogenbirk

**D**avid Hogenbirk is an all-round student whose talent, interests and leadership go well beyond the classroom. Although he has achieved marks in the mid-90s since Grade 9, he has also found time to contribute to his Sudbury high school and the community.

During his years at Lasalle Secondary School, he was a peer tutor and volunteered for open houses, the outreach committee and athletics. In the community, he was involved with the blood donor

**T**HE LINCOLN ALEXANDER CHANCELLOR'S SCHOLARSHIPS are named in honour of U of G's longtime chancellor. The awards are intended to enhance student diversity on campus, recognizing students of academic distinction who are aboriginal, persons with a disability or members of a visible minority, and who have made significant contributions to their schools and communities and have demonstrated the potential to become leaders in society.



### William Cummings

**W**illiam Cummings believes the mind, body and spirit must be in balance. He achieves this symmetry in his own life through music and literature, athletics and mathematics. A talented musician, he writes songs, plays guitar and served on the music council at Marc Garneau Collegiate Institute in Toronto for three years.

He is also an avid writer, placing second in the CNIB National Brailled Essay Competition, which required writing, brailled and editing his submission. Legally blind, he is a member of the Ice Owls, a blind hockey team, as well as a competitive swimmer and lifeguard, runner and rower. He also took part in a mountaineering leadership program in the coastal mountains of British Columbia.

"Exercise gives me a chance to be on my own, to push it to the limit and to challenge myself," he says.

Cummings was on the honour roll at his school, achieving an average above 80 per cent. He was also a member of his school's TOPS program, which focuses on problem-based learning in mathematics and science, and earned a certificate of distinction at the Cayley Mathematics Contest at the University of Waterloo.

In addition, he volunteered as an academic tutor for students with learning disabilities and as a swim instructor, and was a counsellor and

clinic, food drives, workshops for visually impaired, and a member of the Creek community cleanup project and the

Hogenbirk has also been involved in including hockey, track and field, badminton and soccer. In addition, he was a peer tutor at his school.

His extracurricular activities earned him an Outstanding Contribution Award for soccer, a Memorial Award for enthusiasm and to soccer, and most dedicated player in the school.

"Academically, my interests lie in science and mathematics," says Hogenbirk. "The subjects demand a structured approach that is not only a necessary key to success but also a life as well."

He hopes completing a bachelor of science in pure and applied research in nuclear medicine.



### Norris Lam

**N**orris Lam's talent for leadership and her caring nature have made her a sought-after leader in her community. She is currently pursuing a career in nursing at the University of Guelph.

It is through my involvement in these activities that I realized I have come to discover that my real interest is in studying science at Guelph.

At her high school, Lam served as senior vice-president of a student-run organization that places volunteer positions throughout the local community. She led the club Macdonald Association of Canada and celebrates the diversity of the various cultures.

Lam was recognized by her school for maintaining an average over 90 per cent throughout her high school career, she was awarded the geography award and the high

teacher at Camp Kodiak, which focuses on learning-disabled youth.

At Guelph, Cummings is studying philosophy, political science, history and law.



### Kira Kumagai

**L**ike the man named Kira, Kira Kumagai is fostering the Alexander continuing education with warmth — ideals I aspire to achieve, she says.

Kumagai has already made a start with her home town of Burlington. She worked as a coach for children, volunteered at the Good Samaritan Centre for the Heart and Stroke Foundation for 14 years, she volunteered her talents for Chinese New Year celebration. She was also involved in choreographing productions such as *West Side Story*, *Joseph and the Coat of Many Colours*.

A proud Japanese-Canadian, Kumagai's importance of multiculturalism in schools was recognized by her school as a member of the athletic contributions to school and community. She was awarded the O'Brien Leadership Award and the Sean O'Brien Award.

At Guelph, she plans to pursue her love of science program. "I was attracted to the program offers, as well as the emphasis on research," she says.

# CHANCELLOR'S SCHOLARS

*varied interests and skills to the University of Guelph*

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e council and swim team. Her  
were recognized with the Hugh  
McMahon Award.

ve of dance though the arts and  
the broad theoretical base the  
on a community-based project."

A talented flutist, she played in the school symphony orchestra and wind ensemble and founded the Macdonald flute quartet. She also participated on the school golf, tennis and cross-country teams, was a peer tutor and served as an editor of the yearbook. Outside of school, Lam contributed more than 700 hours of volunteer time to St. John Ambulance.



## Alexander McNabb

Alex McNabb is a firm believer that you get out of life only what you put in. Judging from what he's put into his 17 years, he's getting the most out of his life.

At St. Andrew's College in Aurora, he had the second-highest academic average in his class. Adept at balancing academics with extracurricular activities, he also participated in the debating society and the drama festival, served as a senior officer in the Cadet Corps and worked for the school's fundraising program. In addition, he was a member of a sports team each term, excelling at hockey, volleyball and lacrosse.

"I believe my extracurricular activities to date have helped me to become a well-rounded individual with a knowledge of life," he says.

In 2002, McNabb participated in the Shad Valley Program for young entrepreneurs in England, where his team's business plan for a bovine nutrient management apparatus took top prize at the national level. The team has patented the idea and has formed a company to develop it further.

Winning his school's prizes for top student in the sciences and English shows that McNabb has a talent for both the arts and sciences. He plans to complete an honours B.Sc. at Guelph, followed by a medical degree. "Because I'm interested in the human mind and how it works, I'm thinking of psychiatry as a specialty," he says.



## Derek Pieper

Derek Pieper's teachers at Leaside High School in Toronto describe him as a gifted student, a talented athlete and a natural leader. In his graduating year, he achieved over 90 per cent in his courses and was captain of the boys' cross-country team and treasurer of the student council. He was also the council's representative to the Super Council, a group that encompasses all student councils in the Toronto District School Board. In addition, Pieper was the student representative to the Safe Schools Advisory Council of the school board and a member of his school's Reach for the Top team.

He has been equally active outside of school, achieving a first-degree brown belt in karate, completing Grade 2 piano theory, acting as a volunteer and organizer for the local white ribbon campaign (men against violence against women), completing the leadership training program at Camp Kandalore and volunteering as an instructor at his local swim school.

"For those who know me, it's not hard to see that I pride myself on the diversity of my interests," he says.

Pieper has a long-standing interest in organisms, ecosystems and evolution. He looks forward to learning more about the natural sciences by pursuing a degree in biological sciences at Guelph. He also plans to join the University's rock climbing club, Nordic ski team and cross-country team.



## Kendra Strong

In Grade 8, Kendra Strong made the difficult choice of auditioning for the integrated arts package at Eastwood Collegiate in Waterloo. She knew that if she was successful, she would have to leave her neighbourhood school because the arts program is unique to Eastwood. She got in — and says it has made all the difference. "I have had the rare chance to fully experience many outlets of expression and have seen positive changes in myself."

Strong says the success she had in drama, music and dance gave her the confidence to branch out into non-arts activities. She was elected to various student leadership positions, including prime minister of her school and chair of the Waterloo Regional District Secondary School Student Council. She also became an award-winning debater and represented southwestern Ontario in the Provincial Debating Championships this spring.

Academically, Strong was in the top two percentile at her school. Outside the classroom, her many other activities included playing rugby and field hockey; participating in the Girls in Math and Science Club, Rebel Athletes Against Drugs and Junior Achievement; tutoring children; and volunteering for the Youth in Motion program and at the local hospital's emergency room.

Her future plans include combining her love of science, art and children. She wants to obtain a bachelor of science degree at Guelph before attending medical school and becoming a pediatrician. "I've always admired those in the field of medicine for their perseverance, wisdom and dedication."



## Karl Torbicki

Karl Torbicki's scholarly record shows an extraordinary level of academic excellence and participation. With an average of 95.8 per cent, he excelled at the Deep River Science Academy and Shad Valley International, where he spent four weeks as a research assistant in a material engineering lab at McMaster University. He was awarded a full scholarship to attend Deep River from the Ministry of

Energy, Opportunity and Innovation, and his research on neutron radiation dosimetry and dark matter detection earned him a Chemical Institute of Canada Award. He also received best-of-course awards from his school in French and computer engineering, and competed at the provincial level in debating and Reach for the Top.

In addition to his heavy academic load at Waterloo Collegiate, where he was co-mayor, Torbicki "took ownership" of his education by completing evening college courses in conversational Chinese and computer programming. But his quest for knowledge isn't limited to research and studies. Committed to finding ways to inspire change in his community, he worked with special-needs children as an adapted aquatics instructor and reading buddy, volunteered at a local emergency room and helped lead a Free the Children Campaign that was awarded the YMCA Peace Medal.

"I learn about life from the many people I meet while volunteering," he says. Torbicki is studying biological engineering at U of G and envisions a future in medicine.



## Melanie Wills

Melanie Wills excels both academically and creatively. As a student at Lindsay Collegiate and Vocational Institute, she received the Henry Glendinning Beatty Memorial Scholarship for biology and the Orval R. Wells Chemistry Scholarship. She also placed sixth at the National Biology Competition at the University of Toronto.

On the creative side, Wills enriched her school and community with her knowledge of video production. She produced, directed and wrote the video *Health: Students Speak Out*. She also produced, wrote, edited and directed *21st-Century Pioneers*, a video documentary about the trial women's history program at her school, and was involved in a video series that explored Canadian locations of historical importance. Wills convinced the local cable provider to allow her to create and produce a biweekly teen newsmagazine program called *Minor Issues*. Several of her videos were screened at the Toronto International Teen Movie Festival.

As a writer and photographer, Wills has won numerous awards, including a national Prism Award for writing, the Best Story Award at the 2002 International Teen Movie Festival, and grand prize in the City of Kawartha Lakes photo contest.

At U of G, she hopes to combine her love of photography and science, steering towards a career in science communications and media. "When I contemplate my future, I see lenses — those of the camera and the microscope. In an age where society will need to fuel the fires of the information junkie, my place will be where the camera and microscope meet."

*Nominations for the President's and Lincoln Alexander Chancellor's Scholarships must be made by secondary school principals and must arrive at the University of Guelph by March 1. For more information about the scholarships, contact the Associate Registrar, Student Financial Services, University of Guelph, Guelph ON N1G 2W1, 519-824-4120, Ext. 56032, or visit the U of G Web site at [www.uoguelph.ca](http://www.uoguelph.ca).*

# Shakespeare, Eh?

Canadian adaptations of the Bard's work form unique online database



English professor Daniel Fischlin, front, and research assistants Gord Lester, left, and Mat Buntin are studying Canadian adaptations of Shakespeare's plays and what they might reveal about cultural values.

PHOTO BY PAULA BIALSKI

**A** LONG WITH MAPLE syrup, beavers and hockey, the way we approach Shakespeare helps define us as Canadians, says Prof. Daniel Fischlin, School of English and Theatre Studies.

Fischlin is working on the Canadian Adaptations of Shakespeare Project (CASP), compiling a unique online database that features hundreds of Canadian adaptations — alterations and rewrites — to the Bard's scripts.

"The way Canadians adapt Shakespeare is a transmission of cultural values," he says. "We see patterns with how people change the stories or the language to suit the experiences they're facing in their own communities. This theatrical activity gives us insight into communities across the country."

Since 2001, the CASP team, which has employed more than 20 graduate students, has uncovered some 500 plays and filled eight filing cabinets with texts, films, digital images, interviews and cartoons. Now,

they're putting that information online so Canadians will have access to the information, which ranges widely in obscurity, history and depth.

"The ways black, aboriginal, female, youth, gay and lesbian and fringe groups have adapted their own versions of a number of the classic plays are an expression of how Canadians define themselves," says Fischlin. "Most of these texts would have been either lost or unavailable without CASP."

Fischlin, the first arts-based researcher to receive a Premier's Research Excellence Award (PREA), says some of the scripts CASP holds make more of an impact than others, such as an adaptation of *Othello*, a play that looks at racial differences, recently produced by an all-black theatre company in Toronto.

He hopes putting the information on the Web will encourage Canadians to explore the many different ways Shakespeare has been adapted over the years. He and his

team have worked closely with computer programmers to adapt a science-based programming language (ColdFusion) for arts-based data.

The Web site, set to be launched in November, boasts more than 3,000 pieces of text and multimedia materials. Fischlin says it will be easy to search. A specific search function, for example, will allow researchers to identify the considerable number of *Hamlet* adaptations written in Canada over the years, then enable them to get more specific details through hot links to the project database describing what researchers have discovered about these adaptations.

Technical support for this project was provided by Bob Creedy of Computing and Communications Services and Michael Denny of the College of Arts. This research is sponsored by U of G, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council and PREA.

BY PAULA BIALSKI  
SPARK PROGRAM

# Virtual Vet Studies Funded

Continued from page 1

Other projects that are part of this initiative include:

- Online lectures streamed to students at multiple veterinary colleges.
- A virtual mentoring module that pairs vets with DVM students for monthly sessions via video conferencing.
- A virtual surgery Web site, including highly detailed 3-D models.

- A database of case studies of farm service visits, including video clips.
- A "visual sound" project that allows users to view 3-D visualizations of sound.

In 1999, CANARIE provided \$1 million for the first phase of the V2MLC project, a portal that gave students and faculty at Canada's veterinary colleges access to video-rich

learning content and the opportunity to share educational resources.

Headquartered in Ottawa, CANARIE is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to the research and implementation of advanced networks and applications that will stimulate economic growth and increase Canada's international competitiveness. It is supported by its members, project partners and the Canadian government.

# BLA Students Win Most Awards at Design Contest

Success reflects ability of Guelph faculty, students to integrate research and design to address challenges

**P**ROJECTS BY U of G landscape architecture students won seven out of 10 undergraduate awards at a student design competition this summer involving 43 schools across North America.

The annual competition held by the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) attracted a record 210 submissions from landscape architecture programs in Canada and the United States. Canadian submissions came from U of G and the University of Toronto.

"The increased competition allowed this year's jurors to be more demanding in their judgments," said an article published in the September issue of *Landscape Architecture*.

The results of the blind judging done in Washington, D.C., in June were announced in August.

Prof. Maurice Nelischer, director of the School of Landscape Architecture, says the awards "are a confirmation that we are at the leading edge of the profession in North America. These awards reflect the success our students and faculty have experienced in integrating research and design to address the many challenges we face in our communities and broader environments."

Winning Guelph designs included everything from green roofs and a bird-friendly golf course to zoo habitats. Several students found inspiration on the U of G campus, including a design for an intensive urban garden on the roof of the new science complex and a proposed walkway in the MacKinnon Building courtyard intended to explore the line between order and chaos.

"It really is a significant event for this program and for students in the program," says Prof. Nate Perkins, co-instructor last year of Guelph's fourth-year design thesis course.

For the past five years, all students in that course have been required to submit their designs to the ASLA competition, says Perkins,

who is also the undergraduate program co-ordinator for the School of Landscape Architecture. This year, Guelph entered 30 designs, the highest number of submissions among all schools in the competition.

Guelph won three awards in the 2002 competition.

In 2002/03, Perkins taught the winter semester of the year-long design thesis course, and retired professor Walter Kehm taught the fall portion. Perkins will teach the entire course this year.

This summer, he served for the first time as an invited juror for the awards in Washington. He says he recused himself from discussion when his students' work was being judged, unless fellow jurors asked for his opinion.

Perkins himself won an ASLA student award in 1985 at the University of Illinois for a proposed redesign of public housing sites.

Along with a student from Ball State University, two U of G students received first-place awards in the category of undergraduate individual design: Jen Degids, for the project "Integrating Bird Habitat With Golf Course Design"; and Kristina White, for "Green Roofs: Second Nature."

Five Guelph students received commendation from the jury:

- Emily Mann, "The Philosophy of Design: Locating the Edge Between Order and Chaos in the Universe of the Human Mind";
- Jeff Brown, "Redesigning Naturalistic Zoo Habitats for Animal Comfort and Visibility";
- Jeff Schurek, "Uncommon Ground: Revelation of the Urban Experience";
- Holly Purvis, "The New Face of Urban Agriculture: Rooftop Permaculture for the University of Guelph"; and
- Saya Nakano, "Revealing the Flow of the City."

BY ANDREW VOWLES



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# Contributions to Sustainable Education Honoured

CMHC award recognizes longtime faculty member's role in spreading the word about energy-conserving housing

**P**ICK AN AREA that could help a house conserve energy — whether it's solar panels, rain barrels, retrofitting or running off the grid — and Prof. John Auld, Marketing and Consumer Studies, won't just be able to talk about it. He'll probably have tested it out himself or at least visited a homeowner who has implemented the idea.

While many people are just starting to make use of rain barrels, low-flush toilets, passive solar heating and composting, Auld designed and built an ecology house more than 20 years ago that incorporated these energy and environment savers. He lived there with his family for three years as an experimental project and to gain experience to help him answer questions, especially from students.

Although Auld teaches courses dealing with all aspects of housing, from design to housing policies, he always incorporates ecological housing.

"Students kept asking questions about what you could do on a small scale," he says. "How much food can you produce on a lot?" "How can you make it affordable?" So I started building this house from scratch and made all sorts of mistakes, but I documented and learned from them and subsequently used the experience in my classes."

He designed the ecology house to be expandable, starting with 980 square feet and later growing to 1,400, with the possibility of eventually reaching 1,800. He and his family produced food at the house — rainbow trout and vegetable gardens — used solar energy and a wood-stove for heat, got their waste down to a minimum, and reduced their per-person water consumption to about half the Guelph average.

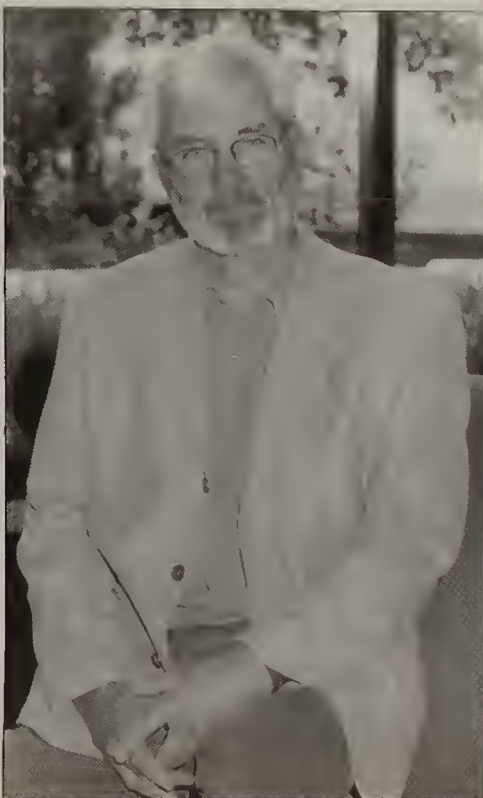
Gaining first-hand knowledge to share with his students has been a priority for Auld since he arrived at Guelph in 1975. He's always looking for energy-efficient houses and buildings across Canada to visit and learn from. Three years ago, while on academic leave, he interviewed and filmed people from Halifax to Nanaimo who have been involved in ecological community and building design projects. The sites he visited included two identical houses built by the National Research Council in Ottawa to test energy-saving products, two houses completely off the grid in downtown Toronto, and a farm in Ontario that has been operating off the grid for more than 10 years.

Auld was particularly impressed by the University of British Columbia's Campus Sustainability Office, which was established to encourage and monitor sustainable initiatives.

"A university is an ideal place to experiment and demonstrate," he says. "Just imagine the whole university as a leading-edge sustainable demonstration project — totally off the grid, wind and solar generation, net energy exported, recycling its own waste, energy-efficient buildings, greenhouses producing quality food. What a learning experience and a positive public statement!"

Auld has initiated a number of video productions on housing in the past and is now editing recent interviews and footage into a video called *Ecological Community Design* to use as a teaching tool.

This summer, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) recognized Auld with the Educators' Award for Excellence in Sustainable Education for the role he's played in spreading the word about energy-conserving housing.



A university is an ideal place to experiment with and demonstrate sustainable initiatives, says Prof. John Auld. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

"I'm quite honoured to receive the award, but I'm also quite complimentary to CHMC for establishing it. It encourages young people to think about how to make things more sustainable — how to meet present needs without compromising the ability of future generations

to meet their needs."

Although Auld admits that many sustainable ideas have been around for decades and still haven't caught on, he remains optimistic.

"I think there's a groundswell slowly developing, in part because teachers at primary schools, high

schools and universities have brought this issue up. I don't think we have the answers, but we need to encourage students to think about whether we can continue going on as we have in the past. The power blackout in August certainly brought this issue to the forefront."

Auld is not an energy conservation activist; he simply wants to make students more aware of their energy-conserving options. He notes that about two-thirds of Canadians are homeowners, but they receive little or no information about their homes.

"You buy a tape recorder and it comes with a 50-page manual. Consumers buy a house — the biggest thing they've ever bought in their life — and get no manual."

The industry is finally doing what Auld says he has discussed with his students for years. "When you buy a house, you should get a manual that tells you what kind of furnace is in the house, who the manufacturer is, details about the warranty, the type of plumbing and paint in the house, the name of the insulation manufacturer and so on."

Making people more aware of their own homes and their energy options is a good first step, he says. He believes people from different disciplines must work together to solve looming energy and environmental problems.

"We have to bring not just the physical and biological sciences together but also the social sciences to look at problems like air, land and water pollution and energy consumption and the role housing plays with these issues, because they're unbelievably huge, complex and costly and there are concerns about equity, security and public policy."

BY RACHELLE COOPER



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# Herbarium Set to Sprout in New Directions

Newly appointed curator eager to expand plant collection and link with biodiversity studies

**S**TANDING ON THE LAWN behind McNally House on Gordon Street, botany professor Steve Newmaster reaches down to pluck a bit of leaf from a weedy plant at his feet. As if challenging a student on a lab quiz, he says: "What's this?"

That's easy — dandelion.

Reaching down again, he snips something else. "This?"

In response to the answering shrug, he says, "Plantain."

Behind the impromptu game of weed trivia by the curator of the University's herbarium lies a more serious scientific pursuit, one that extends from identifying plant species to fulfilling ambitious plans by Guelph botanists and zoologists for a biodiversity centre intended to help in understanding and preserving the variety of life on Earth.

Newmaster was appointed curator of the herbarium in the spring. One of fewer than 30 active herbaria in Canada, this century-old teaching and research library with its nearly 100,000 botanical specimens serves as a vital source of primary information about the taxonomy, geography and biology of plants from weeds to native plants, he says.

He predicts the herbarium will assume an even more important role in a planned research and teaching facility that links old-fashioned natural history studies with modern tools and techniques of genetics and biotechnology.

This fall and winter, he will supervise the move of the herbarium from its current basement quarters in the Federal Building, south of the Axelrod Building, to newly renovated space in Zoology Annex II. There, it will become part of the planned Biodiversity Institute of Ontario (BIO).

The move will give Newmaster and assistant curator Carole Ann Lacroix about three times more storage space, allowing them to roughly double the size of the collection over the next 10 years.

That growth would see the collection expand to about 200,000 specimen folders containing everything from mosses and lichens to flowering plants, and would maintain its ranking among Canada's largest active herbaria.

This spring, some 50 grey metal filing cabinets' worth of specimens threatened to squeeze Lacroix and her computer out of her basement office.

The collection currently numbers about 90,000 individual plant specimens, each preserved, mounted and labelled on its own sheet of acid-free paper, then slipped into a file folder for storage in those cabinets. Adding in other pieces held elsewhere on campus brings the number of specimens to almost 100,000.

That's about \$1 million worth of dried plants, an estimate based on the cost of acquisition, preparation and maintenance, says Lacroix. "And that's probably an underestimation because some specimens are irreplaceable."

Take part of the original collection, donated early in the 20th cen-



Prof. Steve Newmaster, who worked at the U of G herbarium for three years as an undergraduate student, is now in charge of the collection.

PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

tury by John Macoun, named by the *Canadian Encyclopedia* as Canada's foremost field naturalist (elsewhere, his collection of plants and animals became the basis for the National Museum of Natural Sciences). Besides taking part in federal surveys that helped determine Western Canada's suitability for agriculture, Macoun served as botanist to the Canadian Geological Survey, began the national herbarium in Ottawa and discovered 1,000 new plant species, many named after him.

Elsewhere, Lacroix shows off a sample dandelion from Tokyo that arrived in a collection donated in the late 1800s by J. Matsumura, according to a history of the herbarium written by Lacroix and PhD student Kevin Burgess and published in *Wellington County History* in 1994.

Fast-forward to the 21st century and Newmaster is looking closer to home to fill out part of the collection. He plans to do a comprehensive survey of Ontario and Canadian weed species. Currently, the herbarium contains about 80 per cent of Ontario weeds and perhaps half of all Canadian species. "This is the most comprehensive collection next to the department of agriculture's."

The botanist is also expanding the collection of bryophytes or mosses — the subject of his research, which has already yielded several chapters in *Flora of North America* and a pending field guide to the bryophytes of eastern North America.

Another area that meshes with his research interests is a collection of Ontario angiosperms or flowering plants. The herbarium contains

about two-thirds of the roughly 3,700 species in the province."

In 1998, Newmaster co-wrote the publication *Ontario Plant List*, which includes information on each of the province's plants. Along with students, he's working on an expanded edition, to be called *The Flora of Ontario*, and collecting new specimens that will wind up in the collection.

This summer, he visited northern Ontario, where his students studied plant populations to track effects of global climate change and to determine effects of human activities on natural areas.

He also plans to pursue exchanges with other herbaria in Canada and abroad, a routine that permits curators to share specimens and safeguard information and genetic material.

Besides its use by researchers in the Department of Botany and the Ontario Agricultural College, the herbarium plays host to a wide range of off-campus visitors hoping to identify specimens. They include police officers looking to identify toxic or hallucinogenic plants, weed inspectors, field botanists, consultants and members of the general public.

Guelph's herbarium began as a natural history museum in 1880. Established by OAC, it grew to 40,000 specimens before its stewardship passed to CBS in 1971.

Former curator Prof. Jack Alex retired from the Department of Environmental Biology in 1993. Lacroix, a 1980 B.Sc. grad of CBS, has been assistant curator for about 26 years.

Newmaster, who joined the faculty of U of G in early 2002, studied botany here as an undergraduate and worked as a technician in the herbarium for three years.

"I know this herbarium," says the Cambridge native, who studied moss taxonomy for his PhD at the University of Alberta and did post-doctoral research at the Ontario Forest Research Institute in Biodiversity.

"I knew I was going to be a botanist at eight years old," he says, describing how he first learned to identify trees, shrubs and wildflowers on the family farm. During the past two decades, he has totted up about 56,000 specimens in his field book, recording the habitat, location and other vital information for each. Last year, he adopted a handheld computer equipped with a GPS system to record his finds.

That blend of old and new pervades the herbarium itself, in both its current and planned guises. In the new facility, as in the current lab, the

herbarium will include workspace for students to prepare specimens. Fingering a wooden plant press containing recently arrived specimens in a bank of drying ovens, Newmaster says: "This is the technique Linnaeus used."

Were 18th-century botanist Carolus Linnaeus — founder of the system still used today to classify plants and other living things — to visit Zoo Annex II, he would certainly recognize the stack of newly made presses on a bench in the physiology lab soon to give way to the herbarium, says Newmaster. (The presses were made by summer interns Sarah McKay and John Klymko.) That attests to the fact that the science of taxonomy has changed little during the past 200-odd years.

Until now, says Newmaster, in a voice charged with excitement. "We're just on the brink of a new taxonomy."

Both the herbarium and his own research cluster, called the Floristic Diversity Research Group, will become part of the BIO. A U of G application headed by Prof. Paul Hebert, Zoology, received \$14 million from the Canada Foundation for Innovation in 2002 to establish the institute, which will develop innovative research programs in biodiversity science and identify and protect endangered species.

The Guelph researchers hope to receive further funding from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council for work on using genetic material to catalogue life forms. For all living things, use of so-called DNA bar coding will make Guelph a hub of taxonomy and evolutionary ecology, says Newmaster.

"This will position the herbarium as an internationally recognized centre of biodiversity research and provide a bridge among the botanical community, the public and governmental and non-governmental organizations."

BY ANDREW VOWLES

## Have Tylenol, Will Clown

Continued from page 1

of makeup and costumes, acting and pantomime, and how to deal with kids and hecklers alike. He's a card-carrying member of the International Shrine Clown Association.

When he removes his clown wig, Cooke dons a fez as chair of another hospital fundraiser held locally each fall: the Shriners Brewing Festival. The ring on his right hand attests to his dozen years as a member of a local Masonic lodge, where he was president (officially "lodge master") for two years. Only members of the Order of Freemasons can become Shriners.

After he retires from U of G in three years, he plans to pursue clowning full time, including joining the Shriners circus during its summer travels around Ontario and Quebec. It's not a bad occupation,

he says. A good clown can charge an hourly rate of \$60 to \$125. A gig can last half a day, including an hour to put on the makeup and another hour to take it off.

Then there's getting the costume just right. For Cooke, that includes a pair of rainbow-coloured suspenders over a white tuxedo shirt, matching pants and jacket in red, yellow and blue, an oversized polka-dotted tie and big yellow shoes. Add a shocking-orange wig and a bulbous red nose and he's ready for the show. He also totes along a collection of stuffed animals, including a rubber chicken, a lamb hand puppet and an owl.

For the past 20 years at Guelph, Cooke has maintained the audiovisual equipment in classrooms around campus as well as sound systems in

such departments as Athletics. He has never clowned on campus, although he'd welcome a gig, perhaps at the child-care centres or during open houses or other functions.

If there's a link between his day and after-hours jobs, it lies in listening skills. Whether working as a clown or fixing a sound system, he says it's important to "understand what's going on and what people really want."

For the past three years, Cooke has taken private bookings for birthday and company parties, even a demonstration at a seniors' residence. Birthday parties take extra preparation. "I take two or three Tylenol before I leave. Especially little girls, they scream all the time."

BY ANDREW VOWLES

# Admin Assistant Comes Into Her Own Write

Macdonald Stewart Art Centre staff member wins first prize in literary contest sponsored by Eden Mills Writers' Festival

U OF G STAFF MEMBER Sorouja Williamson's name may not be familiar, unless you frequent the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre, where she's been working as an administrative assistant for 13 years. But literary fans attending the Eden Mills Writers' Festival earlier this month should be quite familiar with her pen name, Sorouja Moll. Not only was she invited to read her poetry at Eden Mills, but she also won first prize in the festival's 2003 literary contest for her short story *Dandelions*.

Although this is the biggest literary prize Moll has received, she's been an accomplished writer for years. She's had work published in the *Globe and Mail*, *Toronto Star*, *Carousel* and *Today's Parent*, read a short story on CBC Radio's *Sounds Like Canada* with Shelagh Rogers and was a finalist in the Writers' Union of Canada postcard story competition. A Christmas story that was published in the "Facts and Arguments" section of the *Globe and Mail* in 1998 helped motivate her to keep writing, she says.

"One thing I started realizing is that I could cross genres; I could write poetry and short stories and essays and articles and Canada Council grants, which I do here at the art centre," she says with a laugh. "Writing is just something I enjoy doing."

When the Christmas story was published, Moll had no formal training in writing or critical theory. Soon



Sorouja Williamson/Moll earned kudos for her short story *Dandelions*.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

after, she began taking one course a semester at the University and is now a third of the way through completing a BA in English.

"It's almost like I'm wearing two hats — the administrative hat and the student hat," she says. "It's nice to take off the administrative hat and be part of the student culture. It's really invigorating."

Focusing on critical theory courses has really helped her own writing, she says.

Whenever she's feeling anxious

to be finished her first degree so she can apply to do a master's in English, Moll says she thinks of the advice her 13-year-old daughter gave her the first time she read her poems in front of an audience: "You have to enjoy every word."

Moll says she now lives by these words. "It makes me realize it's a journey and it's about enjoying what you're doing."

Each morning on her walk to work is when an idea for a poem or story usually strikes.

*lions*, is set in a southwestern Ontario town in the 1970s and is about two young outcasts who struggle with poverty and battle with social misconceptions that shape their identities. "It's also about a young girl's belief in the beauty of dandelions, and therein lies one of the metaphors of the story," says Moll.

The story is part of a series of short stories she is trying to develop into a novel. "Winning the award motivates me to continue with these characters in the different stories."

Moll says she's still overwhelmed by the award. "When it's finished, the story almost becomes separate from you. You almost go to bat for your characters, and it's nice that they have been allowed to shine."

More than winning the contest, it's the whole experience at Eden Mills that she values. "Just being able to get your work out there and have it listened to and assessed is so important for emerging writers."

Moll says she was inspired to make writing her priority after hearing a commencement address by writer Ursula Le Guin, who said: "You who nourish, be nourished."

"Particularly when you're a mother and you work and you have a partner and you want to pursue your own goals, whether it be writing or an MA, you have to remember to nourish yourself along the way," says Moll. "In a way, my writing does that."

Her winning short story, *Dande-*

BY RACHELLE COOPER

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# HR Course Registration Online

New system is designed to make it easier and faster to sign up

**F**EELING STRESSED? Signing up for faculty/staff development courses this fall — including the perennial favourite on stress management — doesn't have to cause extra headaches, thanks to a new online registration system installed this year by the training and development unit of Human Resources.

The new system has been designed to make it easier and faster to register for any of the 70 or so sessions on safety, computing and workplace productivity being offered by HR this fall. Computing and Communications Services (CCS) created the system by revising one originally developed by Teaching Support Services.

Karen Kovats, training and development co-ordinator, says the new system will replace the previous phone registration, which many people found cumbersome and

time-consuming. With online registration, you'll be able to sign up for courses from your desktop without having to listen to long, detailed instructions or having to wait for up to two weeks for registration confirmation.

Kovats's office handles about 1,700 registrations each semester. "We can process these registrations on the online system more efficiently," she says.

The new system will start accepting registrations Oct. 9 for fall semester programs, the first of which begins Oct. 17.

To use the system, you'll need your central login ID and password (the information you use when checking e-mail through Web mail). Go to the HR Web site at [www.uoguelph.ca/HR](http://www.uoguelph.ca/HR), click on "Training and Development Opportunities," then follow the instructions to register.

Can't remember your central login ID or password? Ask your department information technology administrator for a new password. Or take your U of G photo identification to the CCS help desk on the main floor of McLaughlin Library, where you can request a new ID and password.

(To avoid forgetting your password again, get password insurance by going to [www.uoguelph.ca/ccs](http://www.uoguelph.ca/ccs) and clicking on "Central Login Accounts," then on "New: Sign Up for Password Insurance.")

As in the past, all seminars are listed in the "Faculty and Staff Development Opportunities" booklet, which will be distributed near the end of September. A listing will also be available on the HR training and development Web site.

For more information, call Kovats at Ext. 56495 or Margaret Middleton at Ext. 56800.

# Diploma Program in Turf Management Tees Off in OAC

Specialist program designed to meet growing demand

**"F**ORE!" That might be an appropriate heads-up for a new associate diploma program in turf management being offered at Guelph for the first time this fall.

U of G accepted 31 students for the inaugural class, only about one-third of this year's applicants to a program that Rob Witherspoon, director of the Guelph Turfgrass Institute (GTI), says represents a growth prospect for the University.

Witherspoon, a member of the Ontario Agricultural College's diploma program planning committee, says this new OAC program is intended to meet growing demand for turf management specialists, mostly for golf courses but also for lawn and landscaping companies, sod producers, and parks and sports fields. The specialist program grew out of a horticulture diploma program formerly offered at Guelph and now available only at U of G's regional colleges.

"The University does have a strong reputation in turf management already," says Witherspoon.

Developed using information from the Canadian Golf Superintendents' Association (CGSA), the program is intended to generate more professionals with solid science-based credentials, particularly to address environmental concerns over golf course management practices. "There's a need for a specialized program," Witherspoon says.

Far from the cult *Caddy Shack* image, golf superintendents are professionals responsible for maintaining courses worth millions of dollars, he says. "They are professionals, but that image has been lagging behind." He adds that the CGSA plans to introduce certification standards for its members.

The new diploma program will include courses in turfgrass management, diseases, soils, weed management, insects, course design and construction, and integrated pest management. Instructors will come from several areas on campus, in-

cluding the Department of Plant Agriculture, the Department of Environmental Biology, and the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development. Witherspoon will also teach courses on the turf industry and turf management.

About eight out of 10 students plan to pursue careers with golf courses as groundskeepers or course superintendents. Witherspoon says many graduates of Guelph's horticulture diploma program are now tending more than a few of Canada's roughly 2,000 golf courses. Among those grads are Rhod Trainor, course superintendent at the Hamilton Golf and Country Club, and Virginia Nicholson, the club's horticulturist. The golf club recently hosted the Bell Canadian Open.

Coincidentally, a six-year employee of the club is now a member of the first turf management diploma class. Matt Gauthier decided to enrol in the program because "I realized that I loved going to work every morning and I could see myself doing this in five, 10, 20 years. Through my job, I've learned all about the practical aspects of working on a golf course. Now, I want to learn the theory and turn the job I love into a career that will hopefully last a lifetime."

Related courses for industry professionals have also proven popular at Guelph over the years. "Golf Operations Management" is an online post-diploma certificate program offered through Independent Study/Access and the Golf Management Institute of Canada. The "Turf Managers' Short Course" is a four-week program for practitioners held at the GTI.

Established in 1987, the GTI conducts research for Canada's \$1-billion turf industry on pesticide reduction, the environmental impacts of turf management practices and evaluation of turf varieties and products, particularly in Ontario.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

# Top Culinary Books Toasted

**G**IVEN U of G's expertise in agriculture, food science and hospitality and tourism management — not to mention its 5,000-volume cookbook collection — it seems only fitting that the University was co-host of the sixth annual Cuisine Canada National Culinary Book Awards ceremony Sept. 22.

The winning books, which highlight the range and expertise of Canadian cookbook authors, publishers and food culture, will enter the U of G Library's culinary archives, the most complete collection of Canadian cookbooks in the world. Its volumes range from the 17th to the 20th centuries and include culi-

nary books from other countries, including Britain, the United States, France and Holland.

"We were thrilled to be involved with the book awards," says chief librarian Michael Ridley. "Cookbooks are wonderful historical documents — they give us a window into the homes of Canadians."

Cuisine Canada, a food-promoting organization that links people in the food industry from farmers and nutritionists to chefs and restaurateurs, was founded by University of Guelph friend and culinary expert Anita Stewart. The book awards are presented in three categories to both English- and French-language books: Canadian

Food Culture Award, Best Cookbook Award and Best Special-Interest Award.

The awards for best cookbooks of the year went to *Out to Brunch* — At Mildred Pierce Restaurant by Donna Dooher and Claire Stubbs and to *À table, les enfants!* by Marie Breton and Isabelle Emond. The food culture award winners were *Simple Pleasures From Our Maritime Kitchens: Anecdotes, History and Recipes* by Julie Watson and *Gibier à poil et à plume* by Jean-Paul Grappe. Winners in the special-interest category were *Chueless About Wine* by Richard Kitowski and Jocelyn Klemm and *Le nouveau guide des vins d'Italie* by Jacques Orhon.

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Large Kenmore chest freezer, excellent condition, tsignore@uoguelph.ca.

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## FOR RENT

Three-bedroom house on King Street, three baths, gas fireplace, non-smokers, friendly cat comes with house, available Jan. 1 to May 31, 2004, \$2,000 a month plus utilities, 767-1333.

One-bedroom apartment suitable for one student, clean and bright, seven-minute walk to campus, laundry, cable, no lease, \$575 a month plus utilities, 763-0449 or mnelisch@uoguelph.ca.

Main floor and basement of duplex, laundry, parking for two vehicles, non-smokers, available Sept. 29, \$1,250 a month plus utilities, 767-2381.

Quiet room with access to cooking facilities, laundry, high-speed Internet, walking distance to campus, \$400 a month inclusive, 831-0893 or jrvincen@uoguelph.ca.

Two-bedroom apartment at 27 Cardigan St., spectacular view of downtown, available Nov. 1, \$794 a month plus hydro, 826-6768.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in Paris, France, available for short-term rental; furnished two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes, France, weekly or monthly, fnmoll@webtv.net.

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Four-bedroom house in south end near Hartsland Zehrs, two baths, parking, non-smokers, no pets, available immediately, \$1,500 a month plus utilities, Nathan, 767-1312, or Rama, 820-1933.

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## ARBORETUM

The Arboretum's Sunday afternoon walks continue Sept. 28 with "Pond Life" and Oct. 5 with "Animal Architecture." The walks leave from the Nature Centre at 2 p.m. A donation of \$3 is suggested.

Interpretive horticulturist Henry Kock leads workshops on "Shrub Identification" Oct. 17 and "Tree Identification" Oct. 24, both from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost of each session is \$35. Registration and payment deadlines are Oct. 3 and 10.

## ART CENTRE

Artist Tony Scherman will give a gallery talk and lead a walkabout tour of his exhibition "A Donation of Paintings" Oct. 1 at noon. The show runs until Nov. 9. Other current exhibits at the centre include "Jesse Stewart: Wheel of Time," "Beyond the Frame" and "Architectural Competition Designs for City Hall."

## CONCERTS

The fall series of Thursday noon-hour concerts kicks off Sept. 25 with soprano Deanna Sarkar and David Lenson on lute. It continues Oct. 2 with pianist/composer John Kameel Farah and Oct. 9 with pianists Yoon Choi and Jacob Sacks, accompanied by Thomas Morgan on bass. The concerts begin at 12:10 p.m. in MacKinnon 107. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

## LECTURES

The College of Biological Science presents the annual Ann Oaks Lecture Series, featuring University of Alberta ecologist David Schindler. On Sept. 29, he gives a general talk on "Canada's Water Crisis in the 21st Century" at 5:30 p.m. in OVC 1714. On Sept. 30, he gives a research lecture on "The Biogeochemistry of Pesticides in High-Altitude and High-Latitude Lakes" at 9 a.m. in Peter Clark Hall. To attend either lecture, RSVP to Ext. 53343.

## NOTICES

The College of Arts speaker series on "Film and Literature" presents novelist Christopher Bram Sept. 24 at 6:30 p.m. in the OVC Lifetime Learning Centre and Sept. 25 at 7 p.m. at Pages.

Homecoming runs Sept. 26 and 27, kicking off Friday night with the Gryphon Hall of Fame dinner at 6:30 p.m. at the Athletics Centre. Saturday events include an alumni swim meet at the Athletics Centre at 10 a.m., the Glory Bowl at Alumni Stadium at 11:30 a.m. and tours of the Macdonald Institute building and gardens. Kickoff time for the homecoming football game is 2 p.m. at Alumni Stadium, with Guelph taking on Queen's. The Central Student Association presents a concert by Sloan at 7:30 p.m. at the Athletics Centre main gym.

Animal-Care Services hosts its annual United Way barbecue, bake sale, raffle and garage sale Oct. 2 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Central Animal Facility.

U of G's music ensembles are open to all members of the University community. They include choirs and an orchestra, a concert winds group and ensembles focusing on jazz, contemporary music and improvisational music. For more information, call Ext. 53144.

The U of G Child-Care and Learning Centre, in conjunction with Campus Police, will host a car seat safety clinic Oct. 9 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Also on Oct. 9, as part of Fire Prevention Week, the centre will hold a "mini" firefighter challenge at 9:30 a.m. at the sports field across from the centre. Children from the centre will participate in an obstacle course focusing on fire safety.

The Stress Management and High Performance Clinic offers its better sleep program beginning Sept. 30. The five-session program will meet Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in UC 441.

Cost is \$20 for U of G students, \$50 for others. For more information, visit the Web site [www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers) or leave a message at Ext. 52662.

The Guelph branch of SGI Canada presents the video *Introduction to the Earth Charter* Sept. 24 at 5:15 p.m. in OVC 1715 and a seminar on "Discovering Life's Unlimited Potential" Sept. 30 at 7 p.m. in UC 335. For more information, call 827-1225 or send e-mail to [guelphSGI@sgi-canada.org](mailto:guelphSGI@sgi-canada.org).

## READING

Novelist Dionne Brand, U of G's writer-in-residence for 2003/2004, will read from her work in progress Oct. 7 at 7 p.m. at Pages.

## SEMINARS

The Department of Microbiology graduate student seminar features Susan McCusker discussing "Molecular Analysis of Ancient Microbial Infection" Sept. 26. On Oct. 3, Teresa Partridge considers "Application of Different Display RT-PCR to Study In Vitro and In Vivo Gene Expression of *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis*." The seminars begin at 12:30 p.m. in Axelrod 117.

"The Decoupling of Benthic Pelagic Coupling: Zebra Mussels and Western Lake Erie" is the topic of Prof. Joe Ackerman, Zoology and Environmental Sciences, in the Department of Zoology seminar series Oct. 3 at 3:30 p.m. in Axelrod 265A.

The College of Arts "Research in Progress" seminar series features Prof. Donna Andrew, History, discussing "The Attack on Aristocratic Vice: Cultural Skirmishes in 18th-Century England" Oct. 15 at 4 p.m. in MacKinnon 103.

## TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services' training and development opportunities for

faculty and instructional staff continue with "WebCT Advanced — Session 1: The Gradebook" Sept. 30, "WebCT Advanced — Session 2: Quizzes" Oct. 7 and "Assessment and Grading Issues" Oct. 7. Details and online registration for all TSS events are found on the Web site [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca). If you have questions, call Ext. 53571 or 52963.

TSS hosts a Design Café Oct. 3 at 11:30 a.m. It will showcase two innovative student-centred learning activities developed as part of the Universal Instructional Design Project. Registration is required on the TSS Web site.

## THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Dimaris Acosta-Mercado, a PhD candidate in the Department of Zoology, is Sept. 26 at 2 p.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "Ecology of Soil Ciliates in a Subtropical Moist Forest in Puerto Rico." The adviser is Prof. Denis Lynn.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Elinor Hughes, Zoology, is Sept. 30 at 2 p.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "Nest-Site Selection, Hatching Success and Hatching Over-Winter Success in Painted Turtles." The adviser is Prof. Ron Brooks.

The final examination of Kathryn Stuttaford, a PhD candidate in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, is Oct. 3 at 9:30 a.m. in Chemistry and Microbiology 370. The thesis is "ESI-MS Analysis of Aquatic Humic Substances and Model Compounds for Improved Interpretation of Humic Mass Spectra." The adviser is John Carey of the National Water Research Institute.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

A steam engine will visit Guelph next month, offering trips to Kitchener Oct. 4 at 2 p.m. and Oct. 6 at 10 a.m. The train leaves from the VIA station. For ticket information, visit the

Guelph Historical Railway Association's Web site at [www.ghra.ca](http://www.ghra.ca) or call St. Thomas Central Railway at 519-631-0099.

The Guelph Symphony Orchestra presents "Fall Splendour" Oct. 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the River Run Centre. Tenor Glyn Evans will perform a world premiere of a new work celebrating Edward Johnson's 125th anniversary. For tickets, call 763-3000.

The fifth annual Guelph Arts Festival runs Sept. 26 to 28 in downtown Guelph. For more details, visit the Web site [www.guelphartsfestival.com](http://www.guelphartsfestival.com).

The Adult Education Committee of St. George's Church presents a lecture and workshop on parenting and teaching with author and educator Barbara Coloroso Sept. 26 and 27. For ticket information, call 822-1366.

The Guelph Civic Museum presents the exhibition "Painters Five," featuring the work of five artist friends, until Oct. 19. The museum is open daily from 1 to 5 p.m.

The Guelph Guild of Handweavers and Spinners holds meetings for weavers on the first Wednesday of the month and for spinners on the second Wednesday, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Westwood United Church. New members are welcome.

Wellington County Museum and Archives hosts a Harvest Home Festival Oct. 5 from noon to 4 p.m. The afternoon will feature wagon rides, entertainment and demonstrations of plowing, rope making, sheep shearing, sausage making and cider pressing.

The Hills of Erin Studio Tour runs Sept. 27 and 28 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Self-touring maps are available at stores in Erin, Hillsburgh and Grand Valley.

# Film Series to Spotlight International Cinema

*Movies show cultural and cinematic diversity of Iran, Scotland, China and Canada*

U OF G WILL HOST a series of full-day film events at the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre to showcase independent films from Iran, Scotland, China and Canada. The first event in the "Beyond Hollywood: Spotlight on International Cinema" series is Sept. 27, with bimonthly events continuing until March. All screenings are free and open to the public.

Prof. Paul Salmon, English and Theatre Studies, and PhD student Debra Henderson are the organizers behind the series. Part of their mandate in film selection was to exhibit cultural and cinematic diversity within each country grouping and

throughout the entire series, says Salmon. "I'm a firm believer in the capacity of cinema to accomplish cultural outreach and to bridge possible misunderstandings between cultures," he says.

Henderson, who directed the 25th-anniversary events of the Toronto International Film Festival, was deputy director of the Canadian Film Centre and served as director of the education and training department at the American Film Institute before beginning her PhD in English, says even she has not had the opportunity to see many of the films.

"A lot of these films have never been screened in southwestern On-

tario, and this series is a great opportunity to see international cinema right here in Guelph."

The three Iranian films to be shown Sept. 27 — *Salaam Cinema* at 1 p.m., *The Wind Will Carry Us* at 3 p.m. and *Smell of Camphor, Fragrance of Jasmine* at 7 p.m. — are festival favourites from recent years, says Salmon. The plight of women and the socio-economic and political conditions in Iran are some of the themes explored in this series.

"There's no shortage of misunderstandings in the West about what goes on in Iran," he says. "We're at a time when we need all the insight we can get on that part of the world."

Besides bridging cultural misunderstandings, Salmon is eager to expose more people to Iranian film for its quality. "It's very hot international cinema. Some of the top directors are deservedly receiving the kind of acclaim that's usually reserved for the very greatest filmmakers in an era."

Salmon's own favourite Scottish film, *Local Hero*, will kick off the "Spotlight on Scottish Cinema" series Nov. 1. He hopes this and his other two Scottish selections, *Shallow Grave* and *Stella Does Tricks*, will show how Scottish cinema distinguishes itself from British cinema.

For the Jan. 24 "Spotlight on Chi-

nese Cinema," Salmon says he chose films from mainland China, Taiwan and Hong Kong to show the diversity of movies being made in different regions of China. *Little Cheung*, *The River* and *Lan Yu* will demonstrate this range.

The films to be featured in the March 6 "Spotlight on Canadian Cinema" are *Inertia*, *Parsley Days* and *Khaled*. Although well-received at film festivals, these productions have not been widely distributed.

Program notes will be handed out with each series, and there will be time between films for discussion and breaks.

BY RACHELLE COOPER



GUELPH

OCTOBER 8, 2003  
VOLUME 47, No. 15

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## A Distinguished Dozen

*U of G recognizes 3M Fellows and celebrates good teaching*

A COLLECTION of 12 faculty photos bolted to an inside wall of Rozanski Hall and covered with a paper banner in preparation for an official unveiling attracted a lot of attention from students heading for morning classes Sept. 22. Many lifted the edge of the banner to sneak a peek at what lay beneath.

Who are the distinguished dozen and why do they each rate a plaque in Rozanski Hall?

With its state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment and up to 1,000 students learning there at any one time, the classroom facility is a good place to focus attention on effective teaching practices and respected professors, says Prof. Maureen Mancuso, acting provost and vice-president (academic). The plaques depict Guelph faculty who have been honoured nationally for innovative teaching and leadership in pedagogy. All are winners of the prestigious 3M Teaching Fellowship awarded by 3M Canada and the Society for Teaching and Learning, and they have each helped to establish — and now represent in tempered glass — an institutional commitment to innovative teaching.

"We want students to know that we work hard to promote good teaching," says Mancuso, who championed the idea of an honour wall for 3M award recipients.

The slightly rumpled paper banner came down quickly after the 5:30

p.m. class change as Mancuso and Prof. Jill McCutcheon, acting associate vice-president (academic), unveiled the teaching wall with nine of Guelph's 3M recipients in attendance. The audience included many of their faculty colleagues and those who attended the preceding lecture by U of G's 2003 Distinguished Visiting Teaching Professor, Don Woods of McMaster University.

"What better place than our new classroom facility to celebrate learning?" asks Mancuso. "And learning is what innovative teaching is all about." That's why each plaque includes a quote from one of the professor's students.

It's worth a walk to Rozanski Hall to read what students find memorable about these award-winning faculty: the late John Bell, Languages and Literatures, and Norman Gibbins, Microbiology; former associate vice-president (academic) Constance Rooke and former landscape architecture professor Ron Stoltz; retired professors Sandy Middleton, Zoology, and Trevor Dickinson, Engineering; and current faculty Ernie McFarland, Physics, Terry Gillespie, Land Resource Science, Gordon Lange, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Joe Cunsolo, Mathematics and Statistics, Fred Evers, Sociology and Anthropology, and president Alastair Summerlee, Bio-medical Sciences.

A 3M recipient himself, Woods

said he was envious of the facilities available in Rozanski Hall and called it an excellent design response to the double cohort. His public lecture dealt with other ways of addressing the double cohort challenge and included some of his own strategies for teaching large classes.

Woods said he takes a photo of the class and gives each student a photocopy, setting a learning goal for students to know the names of 80 per cent of their classmates by exam time.

"Getting to know people will improve learning," he said, as will every imaginative idea a professor uses to make students feel that they're being recognized as individuals.

A chemical engineering professor who is an expert in problem-based learning and process design, Woods spent three days on campus, leading workshops for faculty and students on topics ranging from teaching seminar courses to stress management techniques.

The visitor program was created in 2002 to complement the teaching excellence of U of G's 3M Fellows, to focus attention on the scholarship of teaching and to give Guelph faculty a chance to learn from a notable and respected teacher. The 3M Fellows wanted the program to capture and celebrate the enthusiasm, passion and dedication that their late colleague Gibbins brought to teaching.

BY MARY DICKESON



Prof. Dorothy Odartey-Wellington says she learned the importance of patience in teaching languages from a professor she had at the University of Ghana.  
PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

## Top Teacher Named in College of Arts

*Dean says it's critical to recognize excellence in teaching*

THIS YEAR'S RECIPIENT of the College of Arts Teaching Excellence Award can scarcely remember a time when she wasn't teaching professionally. From leading elementary school classes in her native Ghana as part of her national service to teaching English as a second language in Spain to her current position in the Department of Languages and Literatures, Prof. Dorothy Odartey-Wellington has been finding ways to connect with students and trigger different learning styles since she was 18.

Last month, her achievements in the classroom were honoured by her

colleagues in the College of Arts.

"The importance of recognizing excellence in teaching is critical," says college dean Jacqueline Murray. "It not only confirms that teaching excellence is a fundamental goal for faculty members, but it also reminds students that their learning is a shared project for us all."

Since joining U of G after completing her PhD at McGill University in 1997, Odartey-Wellington has taught three courses a semester, including "Spanish as a Second Language," "Post-Civil War Literature and Film," "Women in Modern

*Continued on page 10*



Nine of the 12 Guelph faculty who have received 3M Teaching Fellowships were on hand Sept. 22 for the unveiling of a portrait wall in Rozanski Hall that celebrates their achievements. From left are Prof. Ernie McFarland, Constance Rooke, Prof. Terry Gillespie, retired professors Sandy Middleton and Trevor Dickinson, Profs. Gordon Lange, Joe Cunsolo and Fred Evers, and president Alastair Summerlee. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

## Summerlee to Be Installed Oct. 10

PROF. ALASTAIR SUMMERLEE will be installed as the seventh president and vice-chancellor of the University of Guelph Oct. 10 during a ceremony that begins at 4:30 p.m. in War Memorial Hall.

Chancellor Lincoln Alexander and Board of Governors chair Michael Walsh will be among the guests speaking at the ceremony.

The installation will begin with a procession of more than 130 people. It will include U of G faculty, students and staff; dignitaries; former Guelph presidents Mordechai Rozanski, Brian Segal, Burt Matthews and Bill Winegard; and current presidents and vice-presidents of more than 20 Canadian universities and colleges.

## DEAN, ONTARIO VETERINARY COLLEGE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

The University of Guelph has begun a search for a veterinarian to serve as the new dean of the Ontario Veterinary College. As the college's senior academic leader, the dean plays a key role in maintaining and enhancing Guelph's standing as one of the best veterinary colleges in North America. The University combines a high-quality, student-focused educational environment with a record of scholarly achievement that places it among Canada's most research-intensive institutions. Achievements at the Ontario Veterinary College substantially contribute to this standing. The University is committed to innovative programs, internationalism and interdisciplinarity, dynamic student-faculty interaction, and an integration of learning and research.

A search committee chaired by acting provost Maureen Mancuso has begun consultations and anticipates that a full position profile will be available shortly. Further information on the search can be found at: [www.ovc.uoguelph.ca/deansearch](http://www.ovc.uoguelph.ca/deansearch). Requests for the profile, expressions of interest or suggestions of suitable candidates should be submitted in confidence at any time to the address shown below. The search committee will begin consideration of candidates in November 2003 and is seeking a highly qualified individual who can take office no later than July 1, 2004.

The University of Guelph is committed to an employment equity program that includes special measures to achieve diversity among its faculty and staff. We therefore particularly encourage applications from qualified aboriginal Canadians, persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities and women.

Contact: Maureen Mancuso,  
Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic)  
E-mail: [provost@uoguelph.ca](mailto:provost@uoguelph.ca)  
Phone: 519-824-4120, Ext. 53845  
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| 3                | Chetumal, Mexico                    | 8:00am | 5:00pm |
| 4                | San Felipe, Mexico                  | 8:00am | 5:00pm |
| 5                | Cozumel, Mexico                     | 8:00am | 5:00pm |
| 6                | Chetumal, Mexico                    | 8:00am | 5:00pm |
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## OVC Begins Search for New Dean

A SEARCH IS UNDER WAY for the next dean of the Ontario Veterinary College. Prof. Alan Meek, dean since 1994, will end his second term in May 2004.

"For a decade, Alan has provided invaluable leadership to OVC, the veterinary profession in Canada and the University," says acting provost Maureen Mancuso, who is chairing the dean's search committee. "His dedication and efforts have helped establish a sound foundation for the positioning of the OVC of the future."

The dean's search committee includes staff, faculty and student rep-

representatives from OVC and other colleges. In addition to Mancuso, the committee consists of Prof. Dorothee Bienze, Pathobiology; Prof. Mary Buhr, assistant dean (academic) in the Ontario Agricultural College; veterinary student Chris Enright; Prof. Stephen Kruth, Clinical Studies; Prof. Kerry Lissemore, Population Medicine; Jude Otis, assistant to the dean of OVC; and Prof. Alan Shepard, director of the School of English and Theatre Studies.

Through public meetings and correspondence with the University community, alumni and external af-

iliated organizations, the committee has gathered input that will be used to develop a position profile. A website has been launched at [www.ovc.uoguelph.ca/deansearch](http://www.ovc.uoguelph.ca/deansearch) to facilitate communication as the search proceeds.

The committee has also informed the wider veterinary community about the search through advertisements in journals and notices sent to veterinary schools worldwide.

The committee plans to complete the position profile shortly and will begin considering candidates in November. It's hoped that a new dean will be in place by July 2004.

## Accessibility Report Unveiled

Editor's note: The following is the introductory commentary of a report prepared by U of G's Accessibility for Persons With Disabilities Advisory Committee, which is chaired by Prof. Peter Physick-Sheard, Population Medicine. The full version of the "Report on Measures to Identify, Remove and Prevent Barriers to People With Disabilities" is available on the website [www.uoguelph.ca/hre/policies.htm](http://www.uoguelph.ca/hre/policies.htm).

THE INTRODUCTION of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act (ODA) of 2001 prompted U of G to establish the Accessibility for Persons With Disabilities Advisory Committee, which has the mandate of identifying barriers at the University for people with disabilities and promoting the removal of these barriers.

The ODA requires public institutions, including universities, to prepare an annual plan delineating the measures to be taken during the forthcoming year to identify, remove and prevent barriers to people with disabilities. In preparing the first plan for the 2003/2004 academic year, the committee decided it was necessary to begin by collating measures currently in place to address accessibility issues at U of G. In this way, weaknesses and strengths can be defined and a logical plan established for moving forward. Indeed, a major feature of the "Report on Measures to Identify, Remove and Prevent Barriers to People With Disabilities," prepared by the committee for public dissemination in September 2003, is a summary of measures currently in place.

The University has already taken steps to address accessibility issues in a number of areas, such as improvements in the physical plant, in instructional methods and materials, and in health services. Although substantive, these efforts have not been integrated into an overall mas-

ter plan and have a low profile. Consequently, the campus community is poorly informed about challenges faced by people with disabilities and, equally, is often unaware of the capabilities of people with disabilities.

Of equal importance, those members of the University community who have disabilities may not be fully aware of mechanisms already in place to help them reach their full academic, employment and social potential.

Lack of co-ordination in our approach to handling accessibility issues leads to gaps in our strategy when addressing accessibility issues as a community. A concerted effort must be made to overcome these deficiencies.

The goal of this initial report, therefore, was to develop a framework for future accessibility planning by first describing and communicating measures already taken by the University to identify and remove barriers, then prescribing a planning process to create and maintain an accessible and inclusive campus environment. The preparation of this first report has stimulated development of a process to heighten awareness, co-ordinate efforts and prioritize accessibility planning across the entire University community, including the regional colleges.

During the 2003/2004 academic

year, the accessibility committee will focus effort on each of the following seven areas: access to information; equipment and adaptive technology; physical facilities; human resources issues; awareness issues; academic services and policies; and non-academic student support services.

A major obstacle to implementation of appropriate measures for the removal of barriers to people with disabilities is the lack of adequate financial resources. Therefore, in addition, the committee intends to stimulate collaboration with similar committees at other Ontario universities, especially with regard to securing enhanced government funding for accessibility initiatives.

Critical to the success of the accessibility planning and implementation process is the need to engage in extensive consultation in our community. The committee began this process in preparing this first report and plans to seek broad input into the ongoing process of reducing barriers to people with disabilities. The committee will strive to identify measures that will create an atmosphere in which more people feel comfortable in bringing forward disability concerns.

The ultimate goal of the committee is to achieve a state in which the U of G can continually anticipate potential accessibility problems and solve them before barriers arise.

## Police Set Up Task Force

CITY OF GUELPH police have established a task force to investigate cases of assault and indecent exposure in the city, including near U of G. The University has issued safety bulletins about the incidents, which have been posted around campus and are available online at [www.uoguelph.ca/security/Police/crimealert.html](http://www.uoguelph.ca/security/Police/crimealert.html).

U of G urges all members of the University community to be aware of these incidents and to follow the safety tips suggested by Campus Police at [www.uoguelph.ca/security/Police/personalsafety.html](http://www.uoguelph.ca/security/Police/personalsafety.html). Anyone with information about the incidents is asked to call Guelph police at 824-1212, Ext. 217, or University Police at Ext. 52000.



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**HOWARD JOHNSON  
PRESIDENT VISITS**

The president and chief operating officer of Howard Johnson Franchise Canada Inc. is this year's executive-in-residence in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management. Kristy Adams is also a 1990 B.Comm. graduate of the school. She will be on campus Oct. 20 to 22, meeting with students and participating in classes.

She will also give a public lecture Oct. 21 at 1:30 p.m. in Room 129 of the HTM Building.

**POSITION PROFILE ON WEB**

The search committee for provost thanks the U of G community for input on the position profile, which is now posted on the Web at [www.uoguelph.ca/info/vpsc](http://www.uoguelph.ca/info/vpsc).

**UNITED WAY KICKS OFF**

The campus United Way team launched its campaign Sept. 30, setting a goal of \$285,000. Pledge cards have been distributed across campus, with the first incentive draw scheduled for Oct. 9. Draws continue Oct. 16, 23 and 30 and Nov. 3, with more than 100 prizes to be won. Pledge forms returned early are eligible for all five draws. For more details, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/unitedway](http://www.uoguelph.ca/unitedway).

**ANNUAL BOND CAMPAIGN ON**

U of G is again offering employees a chance to buy Canada Savings Bonds through automatic payroll deductions and has chosen to participate in an electronic campaign this year. This "E-Campaign" provides complete electronic services, including online application, change of contribution amount and information about an employee's existing plan. The annual fall campaign runs until Oct. 31. For more details, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/HR/download](http://www.uoguelph.ca/HR/download) or call Ext. 56148.

**GUELPH GOES TO THE FAIR**

Close to 150 U of G staff, faculty and student volunteers represented Guelph at the annual Ontario Universities' Fair Sept. 25 to 27 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. The fair drew more than 60,000 visitors this year. Liaison officer Hilory Gasevycz says Guelph's 90-foot display again proved a popular stop for visitors. She credits the display's success to the expertise and dedication of the campus volunteers.

**U OF G EMPLOYEE CHARGED**

In the process of an internal U of G investigation, City of Guelph police were notified last week that a U of G faculty member may have used a University computer to engage in activity that violates U of G's acceptable-use policy for computing and networking facilities. As a result of the preliminary police investigation, the OPP's child pornography section was contacted, and following an investigation by that unit, the employee was charged with three counts of possession of child pornography. U of G is reviewing this matter as per the terms of its faculty disciplinary policy.

# English Prof's Massey Lectures to Focus on Native Concerns

*King uses personal anecdotes, autobiographical experiences and academic research to explore how culture and social circumstances in North America have been crafted*

ONE THING Northrop Frye, Martin Luther King, Doris Lessing, Noam Chomsky and Ursula Franklin all have in common is that they've each delivered Canada's Massey Lectures. On Nov. 5, Prof. Thomas King, English and Theatre Studies, will join this distinguished group when he presents the first in a series of five lectures to take place in five provinces over nine days. Titled "The Truth About Stories: A Native Narrative," the lectures will be recorded and broadcast on the CBC Radio show *Ideas*, sold as a set of five CDs and published in a book of the same name by House of Anansi Press.

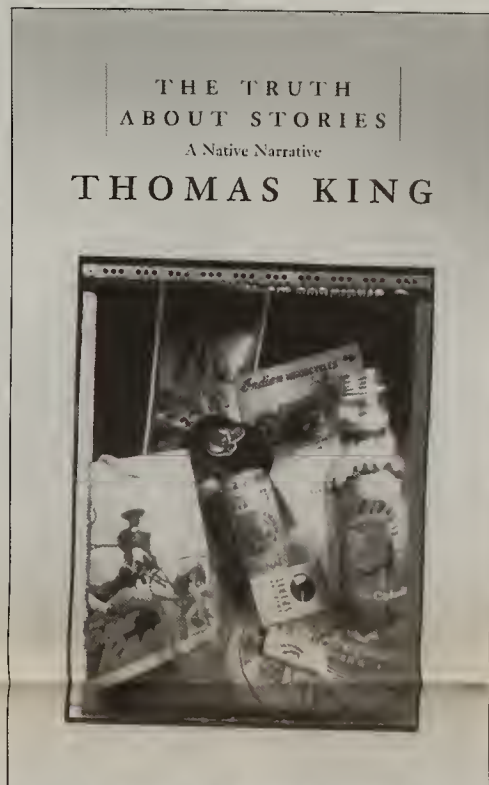
Although King says he was honoured to be asked to deliver the 2003 Massey Lectures, a Canadian literary tradition since 1961, he's also "petrified." Not only is he afraid of flying — which will make the trips to lecture locations in Montreal, St. John's, Victoria, Calgary and Toronto somewhat gruelling — he says he's also not a very public person.

Those familiar with King's work might be surprised to learn he's not comfortable speaking in front of a large crowd. He created and starred in the popular CBC Radio show *Dead Dog Café Comedy Hour* and is a renowned novelist whose books have been published in several languages and shortlisted for the Governor General's Award and Commonwealth Writers Prize. *Green Grass, Running Water* was taught in more undergraduate Canadian literature courses than any other work in 2001, and *Medicine River* was made into a 1997 feature film starring Graham Greene.

Although he's obviously earned his invitation to give the Massey Lectures, King thinks his strong point is different than that of his predecessors. "I don't think of myself as a public intellectual; I think of myself as a storyteller."

He took a year and a half to complete the lectures, a process he says was "fun in an excruciating way." In keeping with his storytelling strengths, he uses personal anecdotes, autobiographical experiences and academic research in the lectures to explore how culture and social circumstances in North America have been crafted. He says he focuses mainly on native concerns in an attempt to explain the dichotomies that are found at the heart of society and culture.

Born 60 years ago in a small town in northern California, King has no shortage of experiences to draw on for his lectures. Before moving to Canada in 1980, he worked across the United States and in New Zealand and Australia. After moving to Canada, he lived in Lethbridge, Victoria and Toronto before arriving at Guelph in 1995. Prior to becoming a



The cover of the Massey Lectures book features a photograph by Prof. Thomas King that illustrates common native stereotypes.

writer, he had dozens of jobs, including working on a tramp steamer, as a beer bottle sorter, in a freezing plant, as a deer culler, at Boeing Corporation and as a photographer.

Each of King's lectures explores a theme of the native experience. Through a comparison of native and Christian Creation stories, the first

*"I wonder why we have this romance and celebration of Indianness in Canada, but only if it's that sort of old-style pseudo-authentic Indian stuff."*

talk examines the inherent differences in the ways native and non-native westerners perceive the world. "If you want to know something about a culture, knowing their Creation story is a great help," he says. Subsequent lectures explore native history, literature, politics, popular culture and social protest.

King says writing the lectures allowed him to talk about things that

annoy him, from Canadian and U.S. laws that can make aboriginals legally extinct with status and non-status classing systems, to companies and sports teams that make money from native stereotypes.

The cover of the Massey Lectures book features a photograph King took that illustrates these common stereotypes. "It's a montage of Indian materials," he says. "If you look at North American culture, there are all sorts of things that use Indian iconography, such as the Indian Motorcycle Club, Indian Spirit Tobacco, the Chicago Black Hawks, the Cleveland Indians and Crazy Horse Malt Liquor."

Born of a Cherokee father and a Greek mother, King says he's always been aware of people determining race from pop culture symbols or only from visual evidence.

"I wonder why we have this romance and celebration of Indianness in Canada, but only if it's that sort of old-style pseudo-authentic Indian stuff. As long as native people in Canada look like native people are 'supposed' to look, then we wind up with all the benefits that accrue to us because we look like 18th-century natives. They look at me with my suit and golf shirts and say: 'Well, Tom, he's not really Indian.'"

BY RACHELLE COOPER

## PEOPLE

**UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA  
HONOURS OAC PROFS**

Prof. Peter Kevan, Environmental Biology, and Prof. Larry Milligan, Animal and Poultry Science, are among the recipients of the 2003 Alumni Honour Awards from the University of Alberta. The awards recognize significant contributions made over the years by University of Alberta alumni in their local communities and beyond. Kevan is an internationally recognized expert in pollination biology and agroecosystem management. Milligan, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, served as dean and vice-president of research at U of G from 1985 to 2001.

**ENGINEERS EARN KUDOS FOR  
PAPER AT U.S. CONFERENCE**

Engineering graduate student Greg Northey presented a paper last month at the annual meeting of the American Society of Biomechanics at the University of Toledo. Written with fellow graduate student Matheson Rittenhouse and Prof. Michele Oliver, the paper was one of only six out of some 350 submitted that were presented in a special awards session of the conference. The paper was selected as one of two finalists for the ASB-Microstrain Award, which recognizes the innovative application of existing instrumentation or development of new instrumentation for use in the field of biomechanics. The title of the paper was "Calibration of a Hall Effect Joystick Position Measurement System Using a Neural Network."

**NATIONAL THINK-TANK  
FOCUSES ON RURAL POLICY  
RESEARCH AGENDA**

Prof. David Douglas, Rural Planning and Development, was among 12 rural development experts from across Canada invited by the rural secretariat of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to participate in a two-day think-tank last month to prioritize a rural policy research agenda. This was a key component of the National Rural Policy Framework, a collaborative initiative of the federal, provincial and territorial governments.

**SOCIOLOGIST ADDRESSES  
U.S., CANADA ASSOCIATIONS  
FOR HISTORY OF NURSING**

Prof. Lynn McDonald, Sociology and Anthropology, gave the Hannah Lecture at the joint meeting of the American Association for the History of Nursing and the Canadian Association for the History of Nursing last month in Wisconsin. Her topic was "Florence Nightingale's Radical Approach to Public Health Care."

**BAKER NAMED TO CIHR  
GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Prof. Mark Baker, Molecular Biology and Genetics and Pathobiology, was invited by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to serve as a member of the immunology and transplantation grants review committee for the competition period that began Sept. 15.

# Slow Down, You Move Too Fast

U of G, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit host events aimed at helping people take time for themselves

**M**EMBERS OF THE University community and the local health unit are working together to host a series of events Oct. 17 to 24 to encourage people to find ways to make more time for themselves and their families. The local initiative, called "It's About Time," is affiliated with the international Oct. 24 "Take Back Your Time Day."

According to Statistics Canada, 85 per cent of employed parents with a child under 12 feel rushed every day.

"The most time-crunched group are married parents from 25 to 44 years of age," says Prof. Kerry Daly, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition (FRAN). "Men report working on average 49 hours per week; women, 39 hours per week."

His FRAN colleague Prof. John Beaton says Guelph is similar to a lot of cities. "We have so many activities going on, we're so busy, we're running from one thing to the next, we're trying to be as efficient as possible. I think we need to slow down, so we're really hoping people will come to the events to contribute strategies for taking time back in their day for themselves."

The four planned events are free and open to the public. On Oct. 17, Daly discusses "The Politics of Time in Our Everyday Worlds: Who Controls Your Time?" at noon at the Homewood Health Centre. (Because lunch is provided, participants must register at 824-1010, Ext. 118.)

"More control over time is not always the solution," says Daly. "Sometimes it contributes to the malaise because the more we control and manage time, the more we can end up doing. It's equally important to learn to surrender to time since a lot of the important things that happen in our lives are unpredictable."

On Oct. 20 at 7 p.m. in the Bookshelf Green Room, Daly will facilitate a conversation café that will allow people to share frustrations and strategies for coping with the lack of time.

"The idea of a conversation café

is to shift from giving talks to the community to inviting the community to participate in a discussion," he says. "It's really grassroots activism. The solutions and the direction of the conversation will be driven by the participants."

On Oct. 22, an interactive improvisational comedy called *Tech and Time: The Irony, the Agony and the Comedy of Technology* begins at noon in Room 103 of the University Centre. On Oct. 24, U of G ecumenical minister Lucy Reid hosts an open house from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Room 533 of the University Centre for people wishing to learn meditation techniques.

"Spirituality is about timelessness," says Reid. "Every faith tradition has some form of teaching and practice of meditation — the art of learning how to be in the spaciousness of the present moment, without rushing ahead into the future mentally or physically. This workshop will help people take back their time by creating a period of timelessness."

Jan Craig, healthy lifestyles program manager at the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit, says she was eager to get involved in the "It's About Time" initiative because lack of time can have serious health implications.

"We know that our overworked, overscheduled lives are bad for our health," says Craig. "And when you ask people why they live on a high-fat fast-food diet or why they don't build regular exercise into their lives, they'll tell you that it comes down to time. We're too busy living quickly to live healthily."

"It's About Time" is sponsored by the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences, the Centre for Families, Work and Well-Being and the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit. Beaton and other coordinating team members are asking people to e-mail strategies for taking back time to [time@uoguelph.ca](mailto:time@uoguelph.ca). Suggestions will be posted on the website [www.uoguelph.ca/~time](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~time).

BY RACHELLE COOPER

# Brand Returns to Campus as Writer-in-Residence

Poet, novelist believes it's important to encourage young writers

**F**ORMER U OF G English professor Dionne Brand, a recipient of the Governor General's Award for Poetry, is the University's writer-in-residence for 2003/2004. The writer-in-residence program allows Guelph students to meet with a professional author to engage in critical dialogue about writing. The program is made possible by the Canada Council for the Arts and the College of Arts.

"We are delighted to be able to partner with the Canada Council to bring such an outstanding Canadian writer to the University and community as writer-in-residence," says College of Arts dean Jacqueline Murray. "These kinds of collaborations provide us with opportunities to enhance our already significant cadre of creative writers on campus, and allow us to form important contacts with our local literary community."

Brand, who taught at Guelph from 1992 to 1994, is a Toronto-based poet, novelist and essayist whose most recent volume of poetry, *thirsty*, won the Pat Lowther Award

for Poetry. It was also nominated for the Griffin Poetry Prize and the Trillium Award for Literature, an award Brand received in 1997 for *Land to Light On*. In addition to eight volumes of poetry, her work includes the novels *At the Full and Change of the Moon* and *In Another Place Not Here*, as well as a collection of short stories, *Sans Souci and Other Stories*.

"It's a great pleasure and significant honour to welcome Dionne Brand back to Guelph as writer-in-residence," says Prof. Alan Shepard, director of the School of English and Theatre Studies. "She's an artist at the centre of contemporary debates about race, global transfiguration, sexual identity and colonialism. Her poems, essays and novels are politically and socially engaged in the serious matters of life that Guelph students and others in the U of G community care about."

Brand believes it's important to encourage young people who are considering writing professionally. "Because corporate sensibility has crept into most thinking, I don't think many young people are en-

couraged to see writing poetry or novels or plays as wise or profitable," she says. "So if I find young writers who think that's what they want to do with their life, that's a real treasure, that's a gift."

She will be balancing her time between meeting with students and working on a novel set in Toronto that is scheduled to be published in fall 2004.

"I think that Toronto, with all its multiple identities, affords us an interesting surrealist gaze," she says. "My new novel is about the lives of four young people seen through that prism."

Brand is available to visit classes, give readings or consult one-on-one about writing in any genre during the fall 2003 and spring 2004 semesters. She has office hours on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. U of G students can make appointments and submit writing samples through Elizabeth Gilbertson in the School of English and Theatre Studies at Ext. 53147.

BY RACHELLE COOPER

# A Global Perspective

OVC lecture, mini-symposium to focus on international research and development

**U**OF G POPULATION medicine professor John McDermott, who is deputy director of the International Livestock Research Institute in Nairobi, will deliver the Ontario Veterinary College's annual Schofield Lecture Oct. 16. He will also act as honorary chair at an Oct. 15 mini-symposium where faculty, graduate students and visiting scholars involved in international work will discuss their efforts.

OVC established the Schofield Lecture in 1970 to commemorate Francis Schofield, a renowned veterinary pathologist who taught at the college from 1921 to 1955. This year's lecture will focus on how veterinary scientists can help alleviate

poverty in the developing world.

A DVM and PhD graduate of Guelph and a faculty member at OVC since 1990, McDermott spends much of his time in Africa. There, he works with governments, donors and other development partners to see how livestock research can benefit poor farmers throughout the developing world. He has also helped build local research capacity in Nairobi by establishing a graduate research and training program in veterinary epidemiology and economics at the University of Nairobi, with support from colleagues at Nairobi and Guelph.

"John has built a very successful model for building capacity in Af-

rica," says Prof. Wayne McDonell, OVC's assistant dean, research and graduate affairs. "Foreign students who come here for training often don't return to their home countries. John has African students doing African projects in Africa."

At the Oct. 15 mini-symposium, titled "OVC International," discussion will focus on a variety of international topics. Presenters will discuss research on the links between environmental change and infectious disease in sub-Saharan Africa, efforts to help educate animal and human health professionals in laboratory diagnostics in Mongolia, and collaborations with Brazilian colleagues aimed at understanding the functions and regulation of white blood cells that enter the uterus early in pregnancy.

"We are living in an increasingly globalized world, so this day presents an opportunity to talk about how OVC responds to global issues," says Prof. David Walther-Toews, Population Medicine, one of the symposium co-ordinators. "We want to give some visibility to our ongoing international activities and generate discussion about how to build on them."

The public is welcome to attend the symposium, which runs from 2 to 5:30 p.m. in Room 1713 of OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre. The Schofield Lecture, which takes place the following day at 2:30 p.m. in Room 1714 of the centre, is also open to the public.

BY KAREN GALLANT, OVC



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# Zoologist Looks at Forces Behind 'Balance of Nature'

New prof will study community ecology to learn more about forces linking natural diversity and stability of ecosystems

**P**ROF. KEVIN MCCANN'S view of ecosystems looks something like a child's Kerplunk game.

Just as slipping out a stick from the plastic cylinder might cause all the marbles to crash to the bottom, simply adding or subtracting a single species might spell game over for a much larger community of plants and animals, says McCann.

The recent arrival in the Department of Zoology will study community ecology to learn more about forces linking natural diversity and stability of ecosystems. In teasing out the workings of predator-prey relationships, he also hopes to help correct what he sees as cherished but misguided notions about the "balance of nature."

Whether it's in the tropical rainforests or on his family's 12-acre farm near Guelph Lake, McCann says the conventional view of biodiversity has gone largely unchallenged. That notion says a more diverse ecosystem is inherently a more stable one.

The idea makes intuitive sense. A place with many different kinds of plants and animals can probably weather disruptions better than another ecosystem with fewer kinds of critters. But does diversity alone cause stability? Look closer and you start to see other forces linking those two factors, says this U of G graduate, who was awarded a Canada Research Chair in Biodiversity on returning to Guelph this summer.

With more species of plants, animals and other living things threatened or endangered, it's important to learn more about the so-called balance of nature, says McCann. He points to Nature Conservancy estimates that about one-third of plant and animal species in the United States alone are at risk of extinction. As natural habitat continues to dwindle around the world, what will



A lifelong love of nature combined with a passion for numbers drew Prof. Kevin McCann to a career as a theoretical ecologist.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

happen to those and other species?

During the 1970s, ecologists such as Sir Robert May, author of *Stability and Complexity in Model Ecosystems*, began to challenge the gospel of diversity, a notion that fostered such ideas as Mother Earth and the idealistic "balance of nature" and one that McCann says still has popular accep-

tance as "almost a religious belief." It was May who brought mathematics of complex systems and dynamical systems theory to bear on nature.

That connection is a fitting one for McCann, who studied math on a hockey scholarship at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire before becoming an actuary.

Finding himself "miserable" in that field, he started thinking about how to combine his passion for numbers with his love of nature. He came to Guelph in the early 1990s to do an M.Sc. and PhD and became a theoretical ecologist. "I naturally gravitated toward complex systems."

His own observations of nature had sparked a question: How did the world, consisting of complex assemblages of living things, unfold more or less predictably, year after year?

"It's amazing that you see the same things," he says. "Really, the world is remarkably stable. What is it about nature that allows things to be stable?"

Although he's still working out his ideas, McCann believes we have to look beyond the screen of diversity at the nature of interactions among predators and prey species within food webs.

He says it's not just the number of players but also the relative strength of their interactions that determines whether an ecosystem remains stable or begins to collapse under a new stress like an invasive species. (He believes the most important threats to the natural world are habitat degradation and species invading new habitats.)

A predator might prefer one prey species to others, rather like consumers in the supermarket choosing filet mignon over, say, stewing beef. When filet mignon becomes scarce, stewing beef doesn't look so bad.

More important, by effectively making filet mignon a rare commodity, the system ensures that individual species—and the entire food web—remain intact. "The predator is balancing the system by shifting among prey species."

Better to have a few weak predator-prey interactions to buffer the system than rely on one or two strong interactions that cause a

roller-coaster cycle of feast or famine, he says.

Remove some of those alternative species and the remaining predator-prey relationships become stronger, paradoxically making the entire ecosystem less stable and more vulnerable to a Kerplunk-style collapse.

Even adding a single species can have catastrophic effects, says McCann. For example, introducing Nile perch to Lake Victoria in the 1950s ultimately led to the extinction of many native species of cichlid fishes.

McCann's past work has included studying seagrass communities in the Caribbean, an ecosystem that is vulnerable to population and development pressures. He also hopes to update conventional models for Great Lakes fisheries, work that might help natural resources managers.

As a theoretical ecologist, he has "labs" consisting of model ecosystems set up in bottles or terrariums. He plans to expand his studies to office-sized aquariums or terrariums, working with a handful of zoologists and botanists involved in Guelph's planned Biodiversity Institute of Ontario.

McCann came to U of G from McGill University partly because he liked the city and partly because he wanted to work with a variety of other ecologists clustered here at Guelph. He will teach community ecology and is planning a graduate course in modern ecological concepts.

He is thinking about writing a book about his ideas, tentatively titled *Big Systems, Little Systems: Communities and Ecosystems*.

"That's probably from reading too much Dr. Seuss," admits McCann, the father of three children aged four to 10.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

## PhD Program in Computer Science Enrols First Students

Guelph is now one of eight Ontario universities offering doctoral programs in computer science

**S**IX STUDENTS arrived at Guelph this summer to enrol in the Department of Computing and Information Science's (CIS) inaugural PhD program in computer science. Four are studying aspects of natural computation, reflecting a long-standing research strength of the department, says CIS chair Prof. Wlodek Dobosiewicz.

The new program is offered in four areas, as follows:

- Applied modelling. Computer sci-

entists use applied modelling, including environmental modelling, to simulate real-life conditions and make predictions, often as a cheaper and easier alternative to building prototypes for a new product or process. Dobosiewicz, for example, simulates computer networks to try to cut through online congestion that routinely hampers Internet use.

- Data and knowledge management. "This is a very hot area of research now," he says, referring to studies of

bioinformatics, data mining, image analysis and intelligent decision support systems. Students working in data and knowledge management are trying to refine information retrieval and analysis, particularly on the Internet, where information is piling up faster than anyone's ability to process it. When Dobosiewicz typed "hierarchical global computer networks" into Google for a recent research paper, for instance, most of the "hits" were links to groups protesting world trade or anti-poverty organizations.

- Distributed computing. Out of 500 desktop computers in a department, perhaps only two dozen might be in use at any one time. How to harness the processing power of those idle machines to speed up computation? Students in this field will also study mobile computing and wireless networks.

- Natural computation. This in-

volves mimicking evolutionary processes to improve computers, particularly in analyzing images or training a computer with voice-recognition software. Members of the Guelph Natural Computation Research Group study artificial neural networks, evolutionary computation and genetic algorithms.

Out of 25 faculty members in CIS, nearly half study aspects of knowledge management and natural computation.

"Natural computation draws heavily on the University of Guelph's emphasis on life sciences," says Dobosiewicz.

Planning for the new PhD program began about four years ago. Guelph is now one of eight Ontario universities offering doctoral programs in computer science.

It's expected that the program will accept about 12 students a year within two or three years.

"As a new PhD program, it has yet to develop the strength and reputation that some nearby computer science PhD programs enjoy," says Prof. Yang Xiang, who helped establish the program before stepping down last month as the department's graduate co-ordinator. "On the other hand, being a smaller program allows CIS students to interact with faculty members more closely," he says.

The department currently has about 550 undergraduates and 85 master's students. It has offered a master's program in computer science since 1986.

Almost 100 first- and second-year undergraduates are currently enrolled in the computing co-op program (bachelor of applied computing) offered by the University of Guelph-Humber.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

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# Seeing a Universe Inside a Cow

Animal scientist uses math smarts to study models of ruminant nutrition, digestion

**Y**OU CAN KEEP your so-called exotic animals. If Prof. James France, Animal and Poultry Science, were to go looking for a fascinating creature, he'd head not for the jungle or the ocean but the barnyard.

"I think Jacques Cousteau wouldn't have bothered with underwater exploration if he had seen the inside of a cow," says France, recently appointed to a Canada Research Chair (CRC) in Integrative Modelling of Biological Systems.

Cows, sheep, goats, horses: this mathematician can't get enough of observing ruminants and the apparent conjuring tricks their four-chambered stomachs allow them to perform.

"The ruminant is one of the most advanced organisms on the planet," says France, who arrived on campus early this fall from his native England.

Referring to the cow's ability to produce some 50 litres of milk a day from little more than grass, he adds: "They take an essentially useless product — cellulose — and convert it to meat and milk with fantastic goings-on in the rumen."

Fantastic, yes, but France believes he can help improve further on that marvel of nature. Alter diets or feeding practices to help farm animals make better use of nutrients, he says, and you save on resources at one end even as you reduce pollution and environmental effects at the other.

He's bringing tools more normally suited to a mathematics seminar — including computer simulations, differential calculus and Newtonian dynamics — to bear on the problem of how to feed farm animals more efficiently and productively.



Prof. James France believes he can help improve further on the marvel of nature that enables cows to turn little more than grass into some 50 litres of milk a day. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

France uses computer models to simulate the ruminant's digestive system. Using his team's "cyber-cow," he can model on the desktop what might happen if farmers altered dietary inputs or practices.

Not only can he mimic what happens in the animal's gut, but he can also determine how many nutrients such as phosphorus a dairy cow will lose in waste that might end up fouling nearby water courses. This is no small consideration with the tragedy of Walkerton still relatively fresh in Ontarians' minds.

"We think we can make cows greener," he says.

Not to mention allowing researchers and farmers to try new

feeding regimens more efficiently. "You can press a button and what would take months or years to accomplish in the barn, you can try with a 'cyber-cow.'"

His "in-silico" work might yield new methods or software programs for farmers or industry, including feed suppliers. He has already worked on models of gas production in the rumen that might end up in software with feeding recommendations for farmers.

Working with England's agriculture ministry, his team showed that farmers could reduce phosphorus in dairy cattle without measurable impact on production. He did that work at the University of Reading,

where he was the director of a bio-mathematics group in the School of Agriculture, Policy and Development.

It might sound like a bit of a stretch to apply Newtonian dynamics — essentially the mathematics that describes the motion of the stars and planets — to the gut of a cow (although France figures Sir Isaac Newton, originally a country boy, would appreciate the connection). France says the workings of rumen flora and fauna involve a universe of interactions and biochemical pathways that, at heart, are a biological application of differential equations and calculus.

He studies mostly dairy cattle, al-

though his models apply to beef cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry and even fish raised through aquaculture. He says being at Guelph will allow him to forge connections among various researchers, even other faculty studying fish nutrition.

Then there's the Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences, just a floor or two up in the Animal Science and Nutrition Building. France is interested in exploring collaborations with human biologists, perhaps in studying specific nutrients or techniques for collecting and analyzing, say, isotope data.

He'll be working with researchers at the Elora Research Station, although his data might come equally from the Ontario Dairy Farmers or the University of California. He also plans to assemble a group of like-minded faculty and students into a proposed Centre for Nutrition Modelling.

One of his former U.K. researchers, Ermias Kebreab, has followed him here to Guelph as a research associate. His PhD student Mette Schulin has also relocated to U of G.

A graduate of the University of Hull, France spent part of 1986 at Guelph as a visiting researcher, modelling ion transport and energy use. He returned to England, then applied when the CRC position came open.

"Guelph is known internationally for its animal science work," he says. "It's one of the top animal science departments in the world."

A self-described "townie," he recalls being hooked on cattle after someone took him to his first agricultural show. "I always quite enjoyed cow spotting."

BY ANDREW VOWLES

## Sasquatch Investigator to Speak on Campus

Guelph grad has had difficulty gaining acceptance from academics for his theories

**A** LONGTIME SASQUATCH investigator who studied wildlife biology at U of G will speak on campus this month about evidence that he and other Bigfoot seekers believe points to the existence of a North American great ape.

John Bindernagel will present a slide show and plaster casts of tracks during his talk on the mystery of the sasquatch, also called Bigfoot.

"I will make the case for the hypothesis that there seems to be a North American great ape among us," said Bindernagel in a phone interview from his home in Courtenay, B.C.

During his talk, which is part of the Department of Zoology's fall seminar series, he will discuss not just the sasquatch but also the nature of scientific inquiry and the resistance he's encountered to his ideas, dating back to his own undergraduate days at Guelph.

"I feel my research results may be of special interest to scientists and students who engage subjects that

have been ridiculed or otherwise denigrated in the popular media," he says.

Rarely invited to address an academic audience, Bindernagel said his Guelph visit will be his second university talk in the past year. About 400 people attended a lecture he gave last fall at Idaho State University.

He was invited to Guelph by zoology professor Jim Bogart, a U of G classmate of Bindernagel's during the early 1960s. Bogart, whose own recent work on a species of unisexual salamanders has raised eyebrows among mainstream herpetologists, says he sympathizes with Bindernagel's difficulty in gaining acceptance among academics.

"He's looking at it the right way; he's testing a hypothesis: Is this thing viable?" says Bogart. "I think people should have an open mind. I think students can listen to something and judge for themselves. That's what we train them for."

A departmental seminar that Bindernagel also gave at Idaho met

with the same academic skepticism that normally attends discussion of his topic. He said other scientists most commonly point to the lack of bones and other remains that would prove the existence of a North American great ape.

Most scientists dismiss reports of sightings of large ape-like animals as mistaken identification of bears or as hoaxes. Although most sightings occur in the Pacific northwest, people have reported seeing Bigfoot-like creatures or tracks across North America, including about 30 accounts in Ontario. Bindernagel said two reports came from the Niagara Peninsula, one in 1997 and the other about 20 years ago.

In 1998, he published a book called *North America's Great Ape: The Sasquatch*, which drew on more than 150 sasquatch reports. He has sold about half of the 4,000 copies printed.

"I was getting frustrated over people who didn't know how much evidence we have," he said.

The popular perception of Bigfoot usually extends no further than an often-reproduced still shot from a film made in 1967 in northern California. The shot depicts a grainy image of an ape-like creature striding along a sandbar.

Bindernagel's own interest had been sparked a few years earlier, while studying at U of G. His question one day about a sasquatch report drew laughter from his classmates and a curt reply from the professor.

"He said: 'We're not going to talk about that.' We went back to wolves and moose and deer. That got my back up."

After graduating from Guelph in 1964, Bindernagel earned a PhD at the University of Wisconsin in 1970. He has worked as a wildlife conservation adviser in East Africa, Iran and the Caribbean.

Since 1975, he has been an environmental consultant in British Columbia and has studied sasquatch reports. He is also a member of the

Bigfoot Field Researchers Organization.

"I don't go around trying to convince people that the sasquatch exists," he said. "What I'm looking for is a forum to explain and tell the evidence we have and say this is worthy of scientific scrutiny."

He has never seen a sasquatch himself. In 1988, he found 15-inch tracks in Strathcona Provincial Park on Vancouver Island. "I'm hopeful, but I'm not expecting a sighting."

Bogart expects the talk will draw more people than usual for a departmental seminar.

"I've been getting calls. The students here seem enthusiastic. I think it's just the unknown, sort of like the Loch Ness Monster. Everybody's kind of interested."

Bindernagel will speak Oct. 17 at 4 p.m. in Room 200 of the Axelrod Building. For more information, call Bogart at Ext. 58728 or visit the website [www.bigfootbiologist.org](http://www.bigfootbiologist.org).

BY ANDREW VOWLES

# NO BUTTS ABOUT IT

Biomedical sciences student helps draft Nunavut's first anti-tobacco laws

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**B**Y THE TIME THE GOVERNMENT of Nunavut tables its draft anti-smoking law this fall, Nadia Salvaterra will have settled back into life as a biomedical sciences student at Guelph. But it's likely she'll be watching the news from the North rather more closely than most of her third-year classmates at the Ontario Veterinary College.

Salvaterra spent the past year in Canada's Arctic helping to draft what will be among the country's toughest anti-tobacco laws and overseeing the development of promotional material intended to deliver the "Stop Smoking" message to the territory's 30,000 residents.

Seated in the grad lounge in the University Centre, she lets her glass of peppermint tea go cold as she describes her once-in-a-lifetime job as the inaugural tobacco reduction specialist for the Nunavut government. She's nursing a sore throat, although there's little evidence of that during her voluble and engaging account of how she interrupted her studies — and a scholarship — at Guelph to spend more than a year in the territory's capital.

She's now back to books and exams, but it's evident that part of her remains in the North. Several times she refers to Nunavut as if she were still there, figuring out ways to grapple with alarmingly high rates of tobacco use among youth and pregnant women.

Until 18 months ago, Salvaterra had never ventured further north than Espanola near Sault Ste. Marie. She was still a pre-schooler when her mother, a doctor, and her lawyer father worked with First Nations communities at the Anishnabe Spiritual Centre there. Perhaps something seeped into her two-year-old skin then. Or maybe it was one of four trips she made to India, initially with her family and most recently on a teaching stint following graduation from high school in Toronto.

Whatever its provenance, she had a desire to work with Canada's Aboriginal Peoples. "I wanted to know what the challenges were in Canada in underserved areas and marginalized areas."

During her second year at Guelph, Salvaterra wrote to government offices in northern Ontario, Nunavut, Northwest Territories and Labrador. Within a few days, she had a call from the Government of Nunavut. They needed student researchers in the health promotion branch of the Department of Health and Social Services.

Along with Lianne Gerber, now in her fourth year of the human kinetics program, Salvaterra headed north in April 2002 for what was supposed to be a three-month volunteer stint in Iqaluit. She laughs as she recalls how she went from a volunteer position to being handed the territory's tobacco file.

"The minister of health was walking through the office one day and asked me about starting research on tobacco reduction."

By the end of the summer, her director wanted to keep her on staff. Referring to both Salvaterra and Gerber, health and social services program director Don Ellis says: "These were really self-starting, high-energy, just very gifted people."

But he lacked a budget for a tobacco reduction strategy, let alone a specialist to run the program. So Salvaterra wrote funding proposals to federal departments. By the end of October, the department had \$1 million, mostly from Health Canada — enough to develop a decent health strategy and cover her \$80,000 annual salary.

As a tobacco reduction specialist, one of five specialists in the Department of Health and Social Services, she faced no small challenge: preparing an anti-smoking campaign and helping to draft the territory's first tobacco control legislation.

A non-smoker — and a young female to boot — Salvaterra was definitely in the minority in Nunavut. Two out of three people smoke in the territory; the next highest rate, one in four people, is in Quebec. Particularly worrisome for health profes-



sionals is the fact that many of those smokers include youths and pregnant women. Across Canada, 10 out of 1,000 infants under a year old require hospital treatment for lower respiratory tract infections. On Baffin Island, the rate is between 300 and 500 infants per 1,000.

"Smoking is one of the leading preventable health problems in the territory," says Salvaterra.

Without any experience beyond the research skills she had acquired at school, she began collecting information from the Internet and contacting other provincial ministries and agencies such as the Centre for Disease Control. Not knowing the rules, she ended up skirting some of them inadvertently. "Sometimes my confidence gets me into trouble," she says.

Unaware of the bid-tendering process, for instance, she called a company cold out of the Yellow Pages to order a printing job. Shortly after her appointment, she took up an invitation from Health Minister Edward Picco to contact him with any questions. That earned her a chiding. "The deputy minister told me: 'You don't just e-mail Ed.'"

Salvaterra wrote a five-year tobacco reduction strategy that calls for decreasing smoking among youth and pregnant women by 40 per cent through a combination of legislation, education, support, surveillance and enforcement. She also worked with a government lawyer to draft the Nunavut Tobacco Control Act.

The inaugural 53-page bill, which prohibits the sale of tobacco to minors, imposes restrictions on tobacco packaging and retail sales, and bans smoking in public places, will be tabled this fall.

"If it passes, it will be the most progressive tobacco control act in the country," Salvaterra says.

She looked after everything from handling media interviews to consulting with youths to designing and adapting promotional materials — no small challenge, given that everything had to be prepared not just in English and French but also in two native languages.

Besides meeting with fellow health specialists in her department, she belonged to a national steering committee on tobacco control that saw her seated around the table with experts from other provinces and Health Canada. Initially, her age raised a few eyebrows around the table, but she always felt accepted more or less as an equal.

Ellis remembers Salvaterra's first meeting with several members of the Workers' Compensation Board.

"Nadia was a few minutes late. She came in wearing overalls and a ponytail, chewing gum, yakking in a pretty loud voice. It was basically: 'Who let this woman in?' You could see it on the

faces of the people from the Workers' Compensation Board. It was hilarious. Within about 15 minutes, the people's behaviour had changed; they were eating out of her hand."

During meetings of the territorial cabinet, Salvaterra found herself presenting proposals with the territory's premier seated on one side and the minister of health on the other.

"That would never have happened in Ontario in a million years, that someone who was 21 years old would be that intimately involved in the political process," she says. "I loved it, I ate it up. I'm the type of person who thrives on challenges and being given ownership of projects."

Away from the office, there were other kinds of challenges. Living in -50 C temperatures and months of darkness wore on her, from the practicalities of having to suit up in long johns and fur-lined boots to the more insidious effects of cabin fever. "I called home just about every day," she says. "I felt very isolated. I missed my family."

There were compensations, including her more-than-respectable salary (although she points out that the cost of living in Nunavut is atrocious: witness \$12 for a four-litre bag of milk). In warmer weather, she was able to boat and hike on the tundra. And during last fall's Canadian royal tour, "I got to see the Queen."

Her other salvation was hockey, which she had taken up in her mid-teens. Besides playing and coaching for the women's teams in Iqaluit, she helped coach 30 high-risk elementary schoolchildren from low-income families in an after-school program started by the RCMP.

"I made a lot of really great little friends," she says. "You could tell it was something they looked forward to."

The program also reminded her of her recent experience in entirely unrelated surroundings. After completing high school in Toronto, she taught English, math and music at an elementary school run by the Canadian Jesuit Missionaries in India.

"When I went to Iqaluit, I thought: 'Geez, this is a whole lot like India.' Kids in Iqaluit and India crave being with somebody who really cares about them."

During her high school years, Salvaterra served a term as the lone student trustee on the Toronto District School Board, a year that saw often-heated debate over proposed school closures. After high school, she was awarded a 2000 Canadian Merit Scholarship from the W. Garfield Weston Foundation. The award, worth \$14,000 a year, recognizes character, academic performance and community contributions.

During her first two years at Guelph, she was a program facilitator at International House, volunteered with the First Response Team, and organized student construction teams in the United States and Central America as U of G's international build co-ordinator for Habitat for Humanity.

Two years ago, while "sitting around one night talking about what we wanted to do in the summer," she and two other U of G students decided to cycle across Canada to raise money for the Canadian Cancer Society. The trio took 10 weeks to bike from Vancouver to St. John's.

Salvaterra, whose lifelong best friend had died of cancer at age 18, felt she had "done something tangible to make a tiny bit of difference."

Back at Guelph, she's been suffering from culture shock. "I was anxious about coming back. At any one time, there are more people in the University Centre than in the town I was living in."

She's deliberately pacing herself, getting used to attending classes again, keeping up with yoga, playing intramural hockey and spending time with Matty, her husky-German shepherd pup transplanted from the Arctic. "Before Nunavut, I would have been going 100 miles an hour. I would have jam-packed my days as much as I could. This year, I have slowed down a lot and been more deliberate in how I choose to spend my time."

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# Urge to Gamble Linked to Casino Designs, Study Finds

*Researchers hope their work will lead to new provincial regulations*

**R**EDUCING THE JARRING noise and other stimuli in casinos can significantly lower a person's intent to gamble, according to new U of G research.

Profs. Karen Finlay, Marketing and Consumer Studies, and Harvey Marmurek, Psychology, found that the busier a casino in terms of noise, colours, lights and people, the more likely both problem and non-problem gamblers are to take a chance.

"The amount of information that must be processed in a setting is called the information rate, and it enhances how aroused you feel, how dominated you feel and the degree to which you lose control," says Finlay. "Because a casino has lots of lights, jackpots going ding, ding, ding and other sounds, as well as colours and people, we thought that varying the information rate might help reduce problem gambling behaviour."

Working with Profs. Jane Londerville and Vinay Kanetkar, Marketing and Consumer Studies, Finlay and Marmurek took video footage of two typical casino designs in Las Vegas and showed it to problem and non-problem gamblers. Before taking part in the study, all participants completed the 12 questions of the Canadian Problem Gambling Index so the researchers could determine their gambling impulses.

After watching the video, the gamblers were surveyed to measure their emotional responses to various settings and their urge to gamble. More than 400 participant observations were collected.

When the researchers eliminated

the jarring and varied noises from the games and instead played recognizable music, the participants' urge to gamble was reduced by as much as 14 per cent, says Finlay.

"When more stimuli were present in the gambling setting, the gamblers generally felt less pleasure, more arousal, higher levels of anxiety and greater loss of control. This resulted in altered behaviour, such as a person exceeding the amount of time and money he or she intended to spend in the casino."

Emotional responses varied with the design of the gambling venue. Casinos generally fall into one of two design categories: the "playground" model, which combines comfort with an element of fantasy — running water, lots of vegetation, high ceilings and open space between the games — and the Friedman model, in which games are laid out in a maze-like pattern.

"The first step was to validate these two designs and recognize that they create differences in pleasure and arousal," says Marmurek.

In the "playground" model casinos, the elements are highly familiar and comforting and measure the highest in terms of individuals maintaining a positive psychological state and a low incidence of problem gambling behaviour. The researchers found that adding music to the mix in this design increased participants' desire to gamble because it was one more stimulus to process and resulted in increased anxiety and loss of control.

In Friedman's model, where there are low ceilings with less space and a lot of noise, music helped re-

duce the amount of information to process and the level of anxiety, so individuals had better control over their gambling behaviour, says Finlay.

Videos were used for the study because the researchers can't test participants in actual casinos.

"There is a good body of literature that says video simulations produce the same direction of results as would measurement in the field," she says. Adds Marmurek: "If anything, it probably underestimates the person's reaction because when you're there, the casino environment is more powerful."

Based on their findings, the researchers believe designing casinos with rooms containing comforting, natural, yet limited stimuli for problem gamblers could help control their over-the-top impulses. They're hoping their research will assist addiction counsellors in developing treatment plans and lead to provincial regulations that will help problem gamblers.

The team of four researchers has received a \$184,000 grant from the Ontario Problem Gambling Research Centre to continue their research on casino design. Over the next year, they will hire videographers to capture a range of specific stimuli found in casinos — the brightness of lights, use of colour, flashing lights, degree of crowds — to pinpoint the stimuli causing gamblers to alter their behaviour. Their new study will focus on the loss of control some people experience as a function of casino design.

BY RACHELLE COOPER

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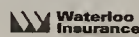
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## Academic Info to Be Focus of Column

**T**HIS SEMESTER, @Guelph will be introducing a column called "Academic Info Corner," to run periodically throughout the 2003/2004 academic year. It will be written by David Hornsby, academic commissioner of the Central Student Association, and Shari Dorr, co-ordinator of the Undergraduate Academic Information Centre.

Each column will cover a topic related to current undergraduate academic policy and/or procedure. The columnists say their goal is to help undergraduate students become better prepared to make informed academic choices.

They also hope to encourage faculty and staff to reacquire themselves with undergraduate academic policy and procedure and to provide them with information about any policy/procedure revisions.

A wide range of issues will be covered through this column. If you have a specific issue you'd like to see addressed, send an e-mail to Hornsby at [csaacad@uoguelph.ca](mailto:csaacad@uoguelph.ca) or Dorr at [s.dorr@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:s.dorr@exec.uoguelph.ca).

## City, Profs to Visualize 'SmartGuelph'

*Three-phase project will link student learning and faculty research with community outreach and design*

**T**WO U OF G FACULTY members have received a grant from the City of Guelph to take a lead role in helping the city implement its recently approved SmartGuelph Principles.

Profs. Jim Taylor and Cecelia Paine of the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development are conducting a three-phase project based on the SmartGuelph Principles, a long-term growth strategy that promotes a 25-year vision for Guelph as a sustainable community. Based on input from nearly 1,200 citizens, the principles form the basis of community-building and urban design decisions that will shape the future of the city.

The U of G project is supported by a \$25,000 grant from the city to cover the costs of graduate research assistants and survey production and analysis.

"SmartGuelph is intended to retain the city's best qualities as it grows," says Mayor Karen Farbridge. "But we need a collective sense of how to achieve our key principles, such as creating a city that has a unique community identity and promoting excellence in urban design. This project with the University of Guelph will allow us to work together with our citizens to create a common understanding of how we go about doing this."

The Visual Preference Research Project headed by Taylor and Paine is designed to do just that, says Taylor,

an expert in environmental planning and design.

"The intent is to provide a grounding for the community-based SmartGuelph Principles that have been developed over the past two years and to develop and demonstrate future directions for urban growth," he says. "It involves us in research that has real-world applicability here in our local community."

The project will include conducting a community survey to determine public preferences for both existing and future housing and developments in Guelph; exploring community acceptance of new urban design elements such as landscaping, architecture and housing density; and developing design scenarios to illustrate the types of development people want to see.

"The results of this research will provide useful information for the city," says Paine, a landscape architect who specializes in heritage conservation. "But more important, it will enhance our understanding of a dimension that is often missing from our theoretical work in community design — having a sense of what local residents value and accept. This study also gives me an opportunity to expand on my research aimed at understanding what places in our communities are valued and why they are valued. This knowledge can provide important insights when setting out directions for future development."

Some areas Paine and Taylor will address are:

- more efficient use of the city's new "greenfield" land supply (open land, often farmland, that is suitable for development) and developing alternative ways greenfield development can take place;
- exploring different types of infill development (open lands in a previously built-up area) to increase density and diversity; and
- defining and establishing a community identity.

The first phase of the project has already begun and involves reviewing research literature, collecting images of community design elements throughout Guelph and North America that demonstrate different forms of development and densities,

and running focus group workshops. Phase 2, set for late 2003 and 2004, will involve designing and conducting the community survey and public workshops. The final phase, slated for 2004/2005, will include creating and presenting design scenarios that demonstrate the application of SmartGuelph Principles.

The scenarios will also form the basis of a graduate studio in community design at U of G.

"This project provides a great opportunity to link student learning and faculty research with community outreach and design," says Paine. "The best part is, we'll be working in our own backyard, where we have a good sense of why this research is needed and how it will be applied."

BY LORI BONA HUNT

## LETTERS

### PARKING SERVICES SAYS THANKS FOR PATIENCE

Parking Services would like to thank all of our patrons for their patience during the hectic fall permit sales session.

We would also like to advise the University community that we continually monitor our parking lots and on-street parking areas for availability. Although the core parking lots fill up quickly, additional parking is available in our perimeter lots: P13 at the corner of South and

East Ring roads, P19 opposite the Cullen Club, P30 behind OVC and P80 on Stone Road across from the OMAF building.

We encourage members of the University to use alternative means of travelling to and from campus, such as public transit, bicycling and carpooling (visit the website [www.carpool.ca](http://www.carpool.ca)).

Ian Weir, Acting Manager  
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# Spanish Prof a Class Act

Continued from page 1

Spanish Fiction and Spanish Literature: Generation of 1927," "Spanish Civilization" and "Introduction to Hispanic Literary Studies."

Because she herself didn't study Spanish until university, she knows the challenges of learning the language.

"I create my own instructional material to go beyond the textbooks because I know, for example, the difficulties in learning the imperfect tense. It has to do with a perception of time and space, so I create a visual representation. The mere definition doesn't suffice — you have to visualize it."

Growing up speaking English and two Ghanaian languages, Odartey-Wellington learned French in high school and fell in love with the Spanish language and culture while visiting Cuba on an exchange program. When she arrived in the country, she had limited knowledge of Spanish, but recalls how quickly she had to learn the language to survive in the new culture.

"My first day in Havana, our apartment was broken into, and I had to go to court to explain what happened."

For Odartey-Wellington, bring-

ing life and culture into her classes is one of her major goals.

"I try to engage students to be active participants in the class, to experience the culture and language. In my Spanish culture class, I encourage them to read a Spanish newspaper every day."

In addition to teaching her students about the historical events that have contributed to making Spain what it is today, Odartey-Wellington wants them to feel connected to the current state of the country.

She often uses film and art to communicate ideas about Spanish culture, poetry and literature. "I use whatever media are available to facilitate learning and communication."

She says it's a challenge to find ways to reach and involve everyone in her classes. In this semester's third-year language course, she has her 35 students working together to rewrite a Spanish version of *Little Red Riding Hood*.

"Instead of the traditional 'Go home and write a composition on this topic,' I've broken them up into groups and asked each group to contribute a portion of the story. It encourages people to come to class and

to listen and participate. It's my way of reaching a bigger class and making them feel a part of the group. I don't want anyone to be lost."

Odartey-Wellington's interest in her students is reflected in the excitement she invariably feels just before collecting essay assignments. "I can't wait to hear what they have to say."

Murray says Odartey-Wellington "embodies the values we all strive for in teaching. We want to approach our students with integrity and high standards, to be demanding yet approachable, to urge them to do their very best and to come to love the process of learning."

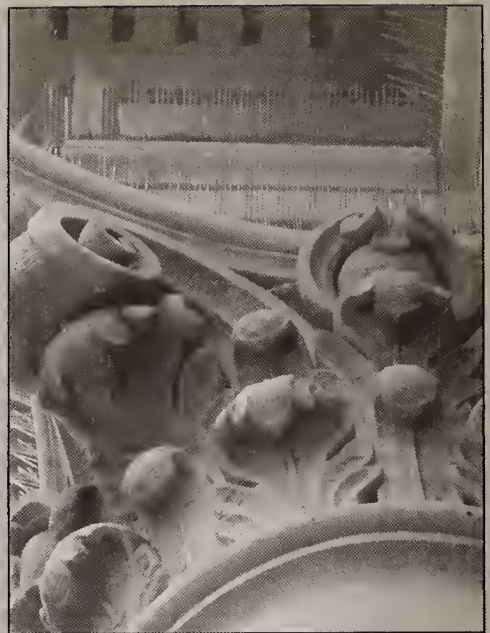
Odartey-Wellington says she learned the importance of patience from a Spanish professor during her undergraduate studies at the University of Ghana.

"The professor I remember most was the one who never blamed us for not knowing. He understood we were dealing with something new. He was extremely patient with us."

She believes her teaching and research benefit each other. Because her current research on the Generation X novelists of Spain is of interest to many students, for example, she's able to bring her knowledge of the topic into the classroom. In turn, class discussions in her "Post-Civil War Literature and Film" course last winter triggered new ideas that led her to write a paper she has submitted for publication.

"One driving force behind how I teach is the need to communicate well," she says. "I don't want students to take my class just to get a credit. I want them to take whatever they get from the class and apply it in some way that is meaningful to their life outside of the classroom."

BY RACHELLE COOPER



## Where Are You Now?

With this issue of @Guelph, we launch a new regular pictorial feature that challenges you to dig deep into your knowledge of the University of Guelph campus to determine where a photograph was taken. The first person to identify the location and submit the answer to Communications and Public Affairs will be recognized with a mention in the following issue of @Guelph and will have his or her name entered in a prize draw to be held at the end of each semester. So sharpen up your powers of observation and tell us where the above photo was taken. Send your response to [r.cooper@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:r.cooper@exec.uoguelph.ca) or call Ext. 56982.

PHOTO BY RACHELLE COOPER

## OAC Program Approved

A NEW BACHELOR of bio-resource management program was approved by Senate Sept. 30. The four-year, 20-credit degree will be offered through OAC and is designed to combine the strengths and offerings at the main Guelph campus and the regional campuses of Ridgetown and Kemptonville.

Students will spend the first two years of the program at a regional

campus, then transfer to the main campus. The initial major, horticultural management, will be offered in the fall of 2004.

OAC dean Craig Pearson told Senate there have been demands in recent years for a program that would fall between the more practical emphasis of diploma programs and the more scientific approach of the B.Sc. (Agr.) program.

## HIS SPIRIT LIVES ON

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1992 Buick Regal 3800, red, four-door, e-tested, new brakes and tires, as is, photo available, 856-2429 or woesten@uoguelph.ca.

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One-bedroom basement apartment, separate entrance, Edinburgh Road near Sunny Acres Park, available Nov. 1, \$500 a month; three-bedroom condo townhouse, Markham Road, dishwasher, gas fireplace,

non-smokers, available Nov. 1, \$1,150 a month plus utilities, Sue, 837-0478 or suewi@uoguelph.ca.

One-bedroom semi-furnished apartment, walkout basement, close to downtown, available Nov. 1, \$550 a month inclusive, 826-5279.

One-bedroom basement apartment, oversized windows, washer/dryer, close to campus and amenities, cable and Internet access, non-smoker, \$700 a month plus utilities, first and last month's rent required, student rebate, 651-2073 or 239-9429.

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The Arboretum's Sunday afternoon walks continue Oct. 12 with "Seeds for Survival" and Oct. 19 with "Pioneering the Arboretum." The walks leave from the Nature Centre at 2 p.m. A donation of \$3 is suggested.

Prof. Steve Newmaster, Botany, leads a workshop on "Cryptogamic Botany" Nov. 7 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$30. Registration and payment are required by Oct. 24.

The Arboretum's Theatre in the Trees presents the farce *Boeing Boeing* by Marc Camoletti and Beverley Cross beginning Nov. 1. Doors open at 6 p.m. Cost is \$53. For tickets, call Ext. 54110.

## ART CENTRE

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre hosts an opening reception for the exhibition "Robert Howson: TARGETS: The New Pretty?" Oct. 16 at 7:30 p.m. Howson will give an artist's talk Oct. 21 at noon. The exhibition continues until Dec. 14.

## COLLOQUIUM

The rural studies colloquium series presents Prof. Don Reid, Environmental Design and Rural Development, discussing his new book *Tourism, Globalization and Development: Responsible Tourism Planning* Oct. 10 at 2 p.m. in Landscape Architecture 125.

## CONCERTS

The Thursday noon-hour concerts continue Oct. 9 with vocalist Yoon Sun Choi and pianist Jacob Sacks, accompanied by Thomas Morgan on bass. On Oct. 16, saxophonist Andy Klaehn and friends perform. Violinist Koh Gabriel Kameda and pianist Meg Masaki are guest performers Oct. 23. The concerts begin at 12:10 p.m. in MacKinnon 107.

## LECTURES

The Guelph Urban Forum is launching a monthly lecture series to promote informed public discussion on urban issues. The series kicks off Oct. 14 with Pierre Filion, a professor of urban and regional planning at the University of Waterloo, presenting "Healthy and Sick Towns: The Experience of Medium-Sized Cities" at 7:30 p.m. in Landscape Architecture 204.

The Department of Animal and Poultry Science hosts the Fred

Present Memorial Lecture Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. in OVC 1714. Paul Hemsworth of the University of Melbourne will discuss "Does the Animal Caretaker Need to Care? The Importance of Human-Animal Interaction for the Welfare of Farm and Companion Animals."

OVC's 2003 Schofield Memorial Lecture features Prof. John McDermott, Population Medicine, discussing "People and Other Animals — Strengthening a Pro-Poor Partnership" Oct. 16 at 2:30 p.m. in OVC 1714.

## NOTICES

The Honorary Degree Committee is calling for nominations for candidates for honorary degrees by Oct. 31. Nomination forms and information about the nominating process can be found on the Senate website at [www.uoguelph.ca/Senate](http://www.uoguelph.ca/Senate). Click on "Reports and Forms." Anyone with questions can call the Senate Office at Ext. 56760 or send e-mail to [mcduffe@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:mcduffe@exec.uoguelph.ca).

The Stress Management and High Performance Clinic offers a stress management skills training class beginning Oct. 14. The class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays for 12 sessions, beginning at noon in UC 335. For more information, visit the Web site [www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers) or leave a message at Ext. 52662.

The Ecumenical Campus Ministry holds a hymn sing Oct. 19 at 3 p.m. at St. Andrew's Church.

The International Development Research Centre offers doctoral awards of up to \$20,000 a year for field research. The next deadline for submissions is Nov. 3. For information, visit [www.idrc.ca/awards](http://www.idrc.ca/awards).

## SEMINARS

"50 Years of Surprises: Nuclear Magnetic Resonance, A Scientific Evergreen" is the focus of Charles Slichter of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in the Guelph-Waterloo Physics Institute's Distinguished Lecture Series Oct. 14 at 4 p.m. in MacNaughton 113. The Department of Physics also presents David Sinclair of Carleton University discussing "Alias SNOLAB — A New International Facility for Underground Science in Canada" Oct. 21 and Henry van Driel of the University of Toronto exploring "Spins Free of Charge" Oct. 28. Both talks begin at 4 p.m. in MacNaughton 113.

The School of Fine Art and Music's "Research in Progress" seminar series features Prof. Donna Andrew, History, discussing "The Attack on Aristocratic Vice: Cultural Skirmishes in 18th-Century England" Oct. 15 at 4 p.m. in MacKinnon 103.

On Oct. 16, the departments of Microbiology and Pathobiology present John Bannantine of the National Animal Disease Centre offering "Insights From the *Mycobacterium paratuberculosis* Genome Sequence" at 3 p.m. in OVC 1434.

Next up in the Department of Microbiology graduate student seminar series is Terence To explaining "Core Oligosaccharide of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*: Functional Characterization of WapP, a Kinase, in the Phosphorylation of Hcp1 in the Inner Core" Oct. 17 at 12:30 p.m. in Axelrod 117.

The Department of Pathobiology seminar series continues Oct. 17 with Prof. Dongwan Yoo presenting "SARS Update and Virion Characterization" at 2 p.m. in OVC 1715.

"Linking Agricultural Research and Rural Radio Stations in Africa" is the topic of Prof. Helen Hambly, Rural Extension Studies, in the international development seminar series Oct. 17 at 3 p.m. in MacLachlan 101.

The Department of Zoology seminar series features John Bindernagel discussing "The Sasquatch: Serious Science or Merely a Myth" Oct. 17. On Oct. 20, the topic is "Statistical Phylogeography: Methods of Evaluating and Minimizing Inference Errors" with Alan Templeton of Washington University. The seminars begin at 3:30 p.m. in Axelrod 265A.

"Actin as a Model for Protein Folding" is the focus of graduate student Braden Sweeting in the biochemistry seminar series Oct. 23 at noon in MacNaughton 222.

The Department of Microbiology presents Raul Barletta of the University of Nebraska discussing "Molecular Genetic Analysis of *Mycobacterium paratuberculosis* Virulence Determinants" Oct. 23 at 3 p.m. in OVC 1714.

## SYMPOSIUM

The OVC International Programs Committee presents a symposium on OVC's international activities Oct. 15 from 2 to 5:30 p.m. in OVC Learning Centre 1713. Information

is available on the website [www.ovc.uoguelph.ca](http://www.ovc.uoguelph.ca).

## TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services' training and development opportunities for faculty and instructional staff continue with "Applying Universal Instructional Design to Group Work" Oct. 9, "WebCT Advanced #3: Managing Quizzes," Oct. 16 and "Teaching With PowerPoint — The Basics" Oct. 23. Details and online registration can be found on the website [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca). If you have questions, call Ext. 53571 or 52963.

In October and November, TSS is offering pedagogical workshops on the theme "Teaching More Students," with topics to include "Difficult and Disruptive Situations," "Stagecraft of Large Class Teaching" and "Interactivity and Engagement in Large Classes." For details, visit the TSS website.

## THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Marika Renelli, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Microbiology, is Oct. 10 at 9 a.m. in Axelrod 117. The thesis is "Characterization of DNA-Containing Membrane Vesicles of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and Their Genetic Transformation Potential." The adviser is Prof. Terry Beveridge.

The final examination of PhD candidate Ljiljana Tamburic-Ilinic, Plant Agriculture, is Oct. 10 at 9 a.m. in Graham Hall 2310. The thesis is "Breeding Tools for Fusarium Head Blight and Deoxynivalenol Resistance in Winter Wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.)." The adviser is Prof. Art Schaafsma.

The final examination of Heather McDiarmid, a PhD candidate in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, is Oct. 29 at 2 p.m. in MacNaughton 222. The thesis is "An In Vitro Assay of Chemical Mutagenicity in Rat Mammary Epithelial and Fibroblast Cells." The adviser is Prof. David Josephy.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

Guelph and Wellington County Master Gardeners are offering seminars on "Exploring Your Garden Knowledge" this month. Discussion will focus on winterizing Oct. 14 and ornamental grasses Oct. 21. Seminars begin at 7 p.m. at the Guelph Turfgrass Institute. The organization is also recruiting new

members. For more information, call 824-5541 or send e-mail to [mguelph@hotmail.com](mailto:mguelph@hotmail.com).

The Guelph Food Bank's annual Thanksgiving food drive runs until Oct. 19. This year's goal is 80,000 pounds of food. Items must be canned or dry. For information about drop-off locations or to volunteer with the drive, call 767-1380.

The 2003 Guelph Studio Tour runs Oct. 17 to 19. For more details, visit the website [www.guelphstudiotour.ca](http://www.guelphstudiotour.ca). Brochures can be picked up at the Macdonald Stewart Centre, the Bookshelf, Kaleidoscope and Barber Gallery.

The Waterloo Wellington Wildflower Society meets Oct. 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Evergreen Seniors Centre. Paul Sheppard of Grand Moraine Growers will discuss seed collection, cleaning and storage.

The Royal City Quilters Guild meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at Westwood United Church. The next meeting is Oct. 14.

Touchmark Theatre presents a staged reading of a play-in-progress called *Dump Girl* by Simon Joyne Oct. 21 at 8 p.m. at the River Run Centre. For tickets, call 763-3000.

The Elora Festival Singers, conducted by Noel Edison, present "Masterworks Through the Ages" Oct. 25 at 8 p.m. at St. John's Church in Elora. For ticket information, call 846-0331 or 1-800-265-8977.

The Guelph International Resource Centre is hosting the Guelph International Film Festival Oct. 17 to 19. For information about events and prices, call 822-3110 or visit the website [www.guelphfilmfest.org](http://www.guelphfilmfest.org).

The Guelph Little Theatre production of *Strangers Among Us* by Aaron Bushkowsky opens Oct. 9 and runs Thursdays to Saturdays until Oct. 25. For tickets, call 821-0270.

A Community and Volunteer Educational Series, a collaborative effort of community and non-profit agencies to provide free skills-based training workshops for volunteers in Guelph and Wellington County, runs Nov. 1 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Evergreen Seniors Centre. Registration deadline is Oct. 17. For information, call 822-0912, send e-mail to [info@volunteerguelphwellington.on.ca](mailto:info@volunteerguelphwellington.on.ca) or visit the website [www.volunteerguelphwellington.on.ca](http://www.volunteerguelphwellington.on.ca).

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At his installation ceremony Oct. 10, U of G's seventh president and vice-chancellor, Alastair Summerlee, centre, dons the presidential robes with help from chancellor Lincoln Alexander, left, and Board of Governors chair Michael Walsh.

PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

## Seventh President Installed

*Accessibility, distinction and innovation will set the tone of Summerlee's tenure*

**A**LASTAIR SUMMERLEE challenged members of the University community and others to use their knowledge and experience to better the world and shared his ideas for the future of education during his installation Oct. 10 as the University of Guelph's seventh president and vice-chancellor.

Summerlee told the hundreds of people gathered in War Memorial Hall that universities and colleges have a vital role to play in the health and welfare of society and in the care of the world. They must ensure that students leave university with the knowledge and the open-mindedness they need to push the outer limits of human thought while being considerate of the world around them, he said.

Summerlee said three directions

will help set the tone and guide development during his tenure: accessibility, distinction and innovation. He pledged to be a "tireless advocate" of accessible and affordable public education and said universities must work to regain their distinction as the moral, social and intellectual centres of society by promoting liberal education and encouraging community awareness of social issues. He also said he will continue to push U of G's innovation agenda in teaching, in research and in the community. (For the full text of the address, see page 6.)

Presiding over the installation ceremony was U of G chancellor Lincoln Alexander. Those in attendance included Board of Governors chair Michael Walsh and other board members; University faculty,

students, staff and alumni; and dignitaries such as Elizabeth Witmer, deputy premier and minister of education.

"This is a very proud day in the distinguished history of this university," Witmer said. "The future of our province and the future of this country depend on how students are educated. To be responsible for students is not only an extreme trust, it's also an exciting challenge."

Also in attendance were current presidents and vice-presidents of more than 20 Canadian universities and colleges, and former U of G presidents Mordechai Rozanski, Brian Segal, Burt Matthews and Bill Winegard. Summerlee acknowledged his predecessors, saying they provided him with "the strongest of foundations" to build on.

## Goodall to Speak on Campus

*Talk is part of the first Canadian Roots & Shoots Festival*

**W**ORLO-RENOWNED primate biologist Jane Goodall will give a talk Nov. 5 at 9:30 a.m. in Peter Clark Hall. Goodall, who received an honorary degree from U of G in 1998, is coming to Guelph to honour young people from across southern Ontario who take part in the Jane Goodall Institute's Roots & Shoots program.

Her talk is part of the first Canadian Roots & Shoots Festival, de-

signed to bring together members affiliated with the organization's Ontario regional office in the Arboretum Centre to exchange ideas on how to take action in their communities to help people, animals and the environment.

"Since we opened our Roots & Shoots office at the Arboretum a year ago, we've generated quite a lot of interest among schools and community groups, but we're hoping

that with Dr. Jane here, Roots & Shoots will really start to take off in Ontario," says Michèle Martin, the organization's regional co-ordinator for the province.

Goodall's talk, titled "Reason for Hope," will discuss how empowering young people to engage in community service is the key to sustained success. At 11:30 a.m., she will hold a book-signing in Peter Clark Hall.

*Continued on page 10*

## University of Guelph Earns Top Marks in National Surveys

*Students name U of G a leader among universities*

**U**OF G HAS RECEIVED top marks in two national surveys—one focusing on student opinions of educational quality and the other looking at public accountability and external reporting.

Guelph was ranked the No. 1 university in Canada for campus atmosphere and technology resources in the University Report Card, a survey of Canadian students published by the *Globe and Mail* Oct. 15.

The survey of more than 126,000 undergraduate students from 64 schools across Canada asked a broad range of questions within nine main categories and a series of subcategories. Students who took part in the survey are registered on studentawards.com, an online scholarship search service that has more than 650,000 registered users. More than 26,000 students responded, including 847 from U of G. Data from 58 of the schools are included in the survey results.

In the main categories, U of G was ranked second among all Canadian schools in student services, third in quality of education and fourth in off-campus life. In the various subcategories, Guelph was ranked among the top three universities in campus food, quality of teaching, campus safety, availability of course material online, availability of professors outside the classroom, online resources and personal counselling.

"We are delighted that our students named U of G as a leader among Canadian universities, especially in areas such as campus safety, student services and campus food," says Brenda Whiteside, associate vice-president (student affairs).

Prof. Maureen Mancuso, acting provost and vice-president (academic), adds: "We are very pleased with the high-level rankings across all the categories. It's rewarding to see our students recognize our efforts in so many different areas. Ultimately, this national recognition is a tribute to the quality and dedication of our faculty, staff and students."

The University Report Card, like other surveys and rankings of Canadian universities, provides future students with an important source of information to help them decide which institution fits their needs best, says president Alastair

Summerlee. "It's an attitudinal study of student views, specifically the views of students registered with the scholarship website, and is just part of the information that is available to students about universities."

U of G was also named the country's top comprehensive university and second among all institutions in public accountability and external reporting, according to the annual Canadian University Accountability Survey.

The findings of the survey, which has been conducted since 1988 by Wilfrid Laurier University professors and is the only survey in Canada that looks at university accountability, appeared recently in *Canadian Accounting Perspectives*, published by the Canadian Academic Accounting Association.

The survey examined 2002 data from 45 schools, rating them on an accountability disclosure index of one to 100. Points are awarded for depth, clarity and quality of information in 26 categories such as financial, operating and mission statements, investments and research summaries.

U of G received a score of 90.6, with Queen's University receiving the top score of 90.9. They were the only two universities receiving scores in the 90s. Three universities received scores in the 80s, and the average score was 57.5.

"This is the first time Canadian universities have earned such high scores," says William Banks, a professor in Wilfrid Laurier's School of Business and Economics, who leads the survey. He adds that Queen's and Guelph's scores also compare favourably with the best in Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

U of G was also the top comprehensive school in last year's survey, placing fourth overall.

"The University has always taken the responsibility of self-assessment and public accountability very seriously," says Summerlee. "We have ongoing internal reviews and performance assessments based on our own indicators of excellence, and it's very rewarding to have those efforts recognized nationally for excellence in public accountability as well."

BY LORI BONA HUNT



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# Employment Equity Plan Completed, Posted on Web

*Recommendations aimed at achieving representative workforce on campus*

**A**N EMPLOYMENT equity plan developed by the Human Rights and Equity Office and a committee drawn from across the University has now been completed and is available on the web at [www.uoguelph.ca/hre/eeindex.htm](http://www.uoguelph.ca/hre/eeindex.htm).

The plan, which has been shared with a wide range of people throughout the University community, is the latest step in U of G's efforts to strengthen its commitment to employment equity on campus, says president Alastair Summerlee.

It follows an employment systems review of the University, a principal part of which involved data collection about the composition of Guelph's faculty and staff. The employment systems review followed guidelines established by the Federal Contractors Program, which requires organizations to institute employment equity plans to remain eligible for federal contracts worth \$200,000 or more.

"Guelph's employment equity plan, which is fully supported by the senior administration, contains recommendations aimed at achieving a representative workforce on campus and enhancing the climate for human rights and equity," says Summerlee.

It also provides a timetable for action and implementation and indicates who is responsible for carrying out each recommendation. The plan will be refined as implementation occurs.

"The University continues to focus on hiring the very best candidate for each position while working to ensure that Guelph more accurately reflects the available pool," he says.

According to the Federal Contractors Program's guidelines, employment equity is achieved when members of four federally defined designated groups — Aboriginal Peoples, persons with disabilities, visible minorities and women — are

represented in proportion to their availability in the labour market.

"This is, without doubt, a long-term project that is fully justified given the ever-increasing availability of larger numbers of highly qualified designated-group members and will, in time, be inclusive of other groups contemplated by human rights legislation," says Summerlee.

In the weeks and months ahead, consultation with campus managers on the employment equity plan and its implementation will continue, he adds.

"Human Resources and the Human Rights and Equity Office will be providing support for the institutional goals and for departmental initiatives wherever possible. I believe the University community will continue to support the employment equity measures and that the results will only enhance the excellence for which Guelph is already known."

## OAC Celebrates Achievements

**O**UTSTANDING STUDENTS and faculty from the Ontario Agricultural College's four campuses were recognized Oct. 3 at a ceremony in Rozanski Hall. It marked the first time OAC's undergraduate and graduate awards have been presented together and the first time students from the regional campuses in Alfred, Kemptville and Ridgeway have been included in the main campus ceremony.

"I am delighted at this opportunity to bring the entire OAC family together to recognize our best and our brightest," said college dean Craig Pearson.

At the event, close to \$500,000 in awards and scholarships supported by individual, alumni and agri-food industry donors were presented to

more than 220 graduate, undergraduate and diploma students.

Pearson congratulated the students on their success and told the donors that their "unwavering support of our efforts and programs not only makes OAC stronger, but also helps ensure that these excellent candidates can continue to work for the benefit of our industry."

Special recognition was offered to the donors of OAC's newest awards: the Biondi Veterinary Technology Bursary, Elite Swine Entrance Scholarships, Henrike Foerster Memorial 4-H Entrance Scholarship, Hugh Kirkpatrick Memorial Turfgrass Management Scholarships, Marian Brennan Memorial Scholarship, Mark and Wilda Waldron Rural Studies PhD Entrance Scholarship, Oxford County

Pork Producers Scholarships and Ploughshare Scholarship.

The awards ceremony also featured the presentation of the OAC Alumni Association's annual faculty awards. Prof. Ian Duncan, Animal and Poultry Science, received the Distinguished Teaching Award. Prof. Chris Hall, Environmental Biology, was presented with the Distinguished Research Award. The Distinguished Extension Award went to Prof. Doug Powell, Plant Agriculture.

In addition, Prof. Doug Goff of the Department of Food Science received the G.P. McRostie Faculty Award, which recognizes the importance of effective advising and mentoring by faculty who play a significant role in the education of OAC students.

## Guelph to Host History Conference

**U**OF G, Wilfrid Laurier University and the University of Waterloo present the 14th annual Tri-University History Conference Nov. 8 in OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre. The theme of the conference is "History, Turning Points and Ordinary Lives."

"This year's conference seeks to explore the interconnections between ordinary people, their ordi-

nary lives and historic moments or grand earth-shaking events and developments," says Guelph history professor Femi Kolapo, who is organizing the event.

During the conference, more than 25 speakers will present papers on topics ranging from aboriginal women to Jews and immigrants in Germany and Canada. Keynote speaker is Beverly Lemire of the Uni-

versity of New Brunswick, who will discuss "Accounting for the Household: Gender and the Culture of Household" at 1:30 p.m.

Conference tickets are \$20 (including lunch) and can be obtained from the Department of History or at the door starting at 8:30 a.m. For more information, call Kolapo at Ext. 53212 or send e-mail to [kolapo@uoguelph.ca](mailto:kolapo@uoguelph.ca).



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# NEWLY EXPANDED TEACHING KITCHEN, RESTAURANT OPEN

The School of Hospitality and Tourism Management's newly expanded teaching kitchen and restaurant are open for business. A grand-opening celebration will be held Oct. 23, with guests to include government officials, project donors, industry representatives, alumni and members of the school's faculty and staff and students. The expansion was funded by Ontario's SuperBuild program and donations to the University's fundraising campaign. This included support from McDonald's Canada, Cara Operations Ltd. and Fairmont Hotels and Resorts.

# FLU SHOT CLINICS SET

Free flu shot clinics for U of G students and employees will be held on campus in October and November. Nine of the walk-in clinics will be located on the second floor of the Powell Building: Oct. 27, 28 and 31 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Nov. 3 and 4 from 1 to 4 p.m., Nov. 6 and 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Nov. 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Nov. 26 from noon to 3 p.m. Two clinics will be held in Student Health Services: Oct. 29 and Nov. 18 from 6 to 8 p.m. A clinic will also run in the OMAFRA building Nov. 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

# OMNR SCIENTIST TO GIVE CBS LECTURE IN AQUATIC BIOLOGY

The Axelrod Institute of Ichthyology and the College of Biological Science present the Marcel Naseer Ali Memorial Lecture in Aquatic Biology Oct. 30 at 5 p.m. in Room 1714 of the OVC Lifetime Learning Centre. John Gunn, senior research scientist with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and an adjunct professor at Laurentian University, will discuss "Lake Char: An Icon for Ecosystem Sustainability." An informal reception will precede the lecture. Gunn will be on campus Oct. 29 to 31 to meet informally with students, faculty, staff and the public. For more information, contact Prof. Patrick Woo at Ext. 53581 or pwoo@uoguelph.ca.

# CONFERENCE TO FOCUS ON NEW RURAL COMMUNITY

"The New Rural Community: Problems and Prospects" is the theme of the fourth annual Rural Studies PhD Conference, to be held Nov. 7 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the OMAF building. Open to anyone interested in the new rural economy, the conference will feature keynote speakers Monte Hummel, president of World Wildlife Canada, and Ryerson University political scientist John Shields. In addition, graduate students from across Canada will present papers on the themes "The New Rural Landscape," "The New Rural Economy," "The New Rural Politics" and "The New Rural Resident." Registration (which includes lunch) is \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. For more information, visit the website [www.uoguelph.ca/rs03](http://www.uoguelph.ca/rs03).

# Harry's Last Pint

OVC's canine blood donor program salutes greyhound's contributions



OVC's Small-Animal Clinic marked the retirement of canine blood donor Harry last week with gifts for the greyhound and flowers for his owner, Audrey Bloss. From left are Bloss, veterinary technician Karen Avent and clinic nursing manager Cindy Stoaite.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

**M**AKE IT AN EVEN dozen for Harry. The eight-year-old greyhound visited the Small-Animal Clinic at the Ontario Veterinary College's teaching hospital last week to make his 12th — and probably final — donation to the clinic's canine blood donor program.

Afterward, sporting a new leash and collar — a retirement gift from the clinic staff — he hopped back into veterinary technician Karen Avent's car for the ride back to Rockwood. There, his owner, Audrey Bloss, will continue preparations for their planned move to their new Toronto home.

It was Bloss's husband, John, who enrolled Harry in the OVC canine blood donor program in early 2001. Until his death in summer 2002, John drove the dog to the clinic for his regular appointments every two or three months. The couple's

daughter kept the donation appointments after John died, but then she moved to Toronto.

Unsure whether she'd be able to keep up the donations, Audrey Bloss was glad to accept Avent's offer to pick up Harry on her day off.

"The family thought it was great," says Avent, a 2000 graduate of the veterinary technician program at Ridgetown College. "Audrey wanted to keep Harry in the program."

Bloss and her husband adopted Harry six years ago from an adoption service, which had rescued him at age 2½ from a racing track in Florida. A longtime artist, she painted a portrait of the brindled animal last year and gave a copy of it to the blood donor clinic.

Walking her dog recently in a park, Bloss met a man who greeted Harry by name, then explained that he recognized her pet from the

teaching hospital.

"His dog had needed surgery at the vet college and had to have a blood transfusion," she says. "It could have been Harry that saved his dog's life."

The canine blood donor program is always looking for new donors. It accepts healthy dogs with the universal blood donor type "A" negative. They must be between the ages of one and seven and must maintain a weight of 27 kilograms (70 pounds) or more. Dogs participating in the program receive free medical exams, annual vaccinations, heartworm testing and preventive medication, nail trimming and pet identification microchipping.

OVC's in-house blood bank has been operating since 1974. For more information about the program, call Ext. 56476.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

# PEOPLE

# ST. THOMAS HONOURS SOCIAL WORK CONTRIBUTIONS

Prof. Judith Myers Avis, Faculty Relations and Applied Nutrition, was named an Honorary Fellow of St. Thomas University in Fredericton this summer in honour of her academic and professional contributions to the advancement of social work knowledge and practice.

# URBAN GREEN SPACE FOCUS OF KEYNOTE TALK IN ITALY

Prof. Robert Brown, School of Environmental Design and Rural Development, recently gave the opening keynote address at a conference on urban green space at the University of Bari in Italy. His presentation focused on recent research into the social and cultural value of urban green spaces.

# KEMPTVILLE LECTURER AWARDED GRAD SCHOLARSHIP

Katalin Bogner, who is teaching in the food, nutrition and risk management diploma program at Kemptville College, has received the Dorothy Britton Memorial Graduate Scholarship for her studies in the distance MBA (hospitality and tourism management) program. The scholarship is selected on the basis of academic achievement.

# GRAY TO SERVE ON B OF G

Virginia Gray, director of the Office of Open Learning, has been confirmed as the staff representative on Board of Governors to complete the term of Michel Mandeville, who has left the University. Gray will serve on B of G until June 30, 2004.

# APPOINTMENTS

Pablo Ramirez joined the School of English and Theatre Studies July 1 as a lecturer, with an appointment as assistant professor when he completes his PhD.

Stephen Powell joined the School of English and Theatre Studies July 1 as an associate professor with tenure.

Hwan-Suk Choi was appointed assistant professor in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management Aug. 11.

Olaf Berke of the School of Veterinary Medicine Hannover joined the Department of Population Medicine as an assistant professor Aug. 1.

# UID Project Wraps Up

Overall impact on student learning 'impressive'

**T**EACHING SUPPORT Services (TSS) is marking the completion of U of G's two-year Universal Instructional Design (UID) Project by hosting an event to celebrate the project's successes and share its results. The event runs Oct. 29 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in Room 442 of the University Centre, with a formal program beginning at 4 p.m. Anyone interested in attending should RSVP to Ext. 53571 or palmerj@uoguelph.ca.

Funded by the Ontario government's Learning Opportunities Task Force and conducted through TSS, the UID Project was designed to give all students equal access to learning, regardless of possible disability, learning preference or personal circumstance.

The project provided faculty from widely ranging disciplines with course development grants and access to design and technical expertise through TSS.

"It's been a wonderful experience — a real whirlwind of activity," says Jaellyna Palmer, project manager.

"The range seen in some of the tools and activities developed as a result of the project was remarkable. In some cases, entire courses were redesigned. In other instances, the changes were more modest. In all cases, the overall impact on student learning was impressive."

The activities or course components developed included case studies, quizzes, self-evaluation tools, supported-learning-group activities, simulations, website development,

course notes, graphics and self-directed learning tools and tutorials. Larger projects included equipment to enhance learning and even a complete redesign of a teaching laboratory to better accommodate varying learning styles and needs, including those of students with a range of disabilities.

As the project progressed, UID generated much interest off campus as well, says Palmer. Universities, colleges, governments and professional organizations invited her to showcase the project at more than 25 conferences and speaking engagements as far afield as Vancouver, Montreal, Halifax and Palm Springs.

For more details about the UID Project, visit the website [www.tss.uoguelph.ca/uid/index.html](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca/uid/index.html).

# IN MEMORIAM

# LINDA JENKINS

Linda Jenkins, a staff member in the Department of Philosophy, died Oct. 2 at age 61. She had been employed at the University since 1990 and is survived by her husband, Roger, U of G's former director of Physical Resources; and two sons, Craig and Michael.

# MARILYN SCHOOLEY

Marilyn Schooley, a staff member in the Office of Registrarial Services, died Oct. 15. She had been employed at U of G since 1983 and is survived by her husband, Gary; four children, Dwayne, Darlene, Kimmie and Kelli; and seven grandchildren.

**Editor's note:** This is part of an ongoing series designed to introduce new faculty to the University community.

### CHRIS BAUCH

*Assistant professor, Mathematics and Statistics*

**Background:** BS (physics), University of Texas, Austin; PhD (mathematics), Warwick University, England.

**Teaching objectives:** I intend to increase the use of educational mathematical software and other learning technologies and to introduce more active learning.

**Research objectives:** I develop mathematical models of epidemiological and ecological systems, with a view to understanding dynamics and investigating control policies.

### CATHY GARTLEY

*Assistant professor, Department of Population Medicine*

**Background:** B.Sc., University of New Brunswick; DVM and D.V.Sc., University of Guelph

**Teaching objectives:** I use examples from cases seen at OVC to show a reasoned approach to the diagnosis and treatment of infertility, genital diseases, obstetrics and reproductive endocrinology in dogs and cats. The development of web-based self-learning modules for students to learn small-animal theriogenology will allow students to learn the discipline more efficiently.

**Research objectives:** To investigate the various infectious, hereditary and nutritional causes of pregnancy wastage and male infertility in dogs. To develop biotechnological methods for the diagnosis and cure of these diseases in dogs and cats.

### ALICE HOVORKA

*Assistant professor, Department of Geography*

**Background:** BA, Queen's University; MA, Carleton University; PhD, Clark University

**Teaching objectives:** I draw on a number of teaching styles that range

ment interactions in cities and to apply this knowledge to facilitate just and sustainable urban development.

### LINDA HUNTER

*Assistant professor and undergraduate co-ordinator, Department of Sociology and Anthropology*

classes. In the classroom, I incorporate music, video clips and fine art images to convey a sense of the time period the students are studying.

**Research objectives:** My research interests focus on issues related to the depiction of gender in the media. I am interested in the representation of gender, HIV/AIDS and the media,

### JESSE PALSETIA

*Assistant professor, Department of History*

**Background:** BA, MA and PhD, University of Toronto

**Teaching objectives:** My teaching aims to enhance students' awareness and appreciation of culture-contact through the study of non-western history and societies, principally in Asia and the Middle East. I also aim to give students context to the events and issues important today relative to the non-western world.

**Research objectives:** I am a historian of South Asia and consider myself an authority on the Parsis of India. My research is principally aimed at detailing the non-western response in history. My research deals with culture-contact and the complex dialogue between western ideologies and non-western peoples.

### KENDALL SWANSON

*Assistant professor, Department of Animal and Poultry Science*

**Background:** BS and MS, North Dakota State University; PhD, University of Kentucky

**Teaching objectives:** I plan to integrate basic biological principles with practical factors associated with beef cattle feeding and nutrition.

**Research objectives:** My work in ruminant nutritional physiology focuses on improving the efficiency of feed use and reducing the environmental impact of beef cattle production systems, better defining the nutrient requirements of gut tissues and the whole animal, and determining if expression of biologically important proteins can be altered through dietary manipulation and if altered expression influences production efficiency.



Chris Bauch



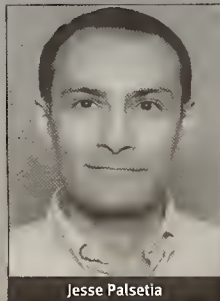
Cathy Gartley



Alice Hovorka



Linda Hunter



Jesse Palsetia



Kendall Swanson

from lectures to more participatory learning sessions. I often use focused free writing to actively engage students in both thought and writing processes in a classroom setting.

**Research objectives:** To broaden understanding of human-environ-

**Background:** BA and MA, University of Guelph; PhD, York University

**Teaching objectives:** I have taught at Guelph for a number of years as a sessional and contract lecturer and am on a teaching stream in the department. I generally teach large

particularly related to health promotion campaigns. I am examining the historical development of HIV/AIDS awareness campaigns in Canada and focusing on the various representations of HIV/AIDS depicted by different health organizations.

## Undergraduate Award Recipients Honoured

*Students recognized for academic achievements, donors thanked for contributions*

ALTHOUGH U OF G undergraduate students have been receiving awards and scholarships in college ceremonies for decades, students receiving University-wide scholarships haven't had an opportunity in the past to personally thank award donors or to be formally recognized for their achievements. On Oct. 14, students and donors were the guests of honour at the inaugural University-wide undergraduate student awards presentation at the Arboretum Centre.

Close to 150 people attended the event, including 57 undergraduate

students who were recognized for their academic achievements and scholastic goals. Award donors, including individuals, families, corporations and organizations, were thanked for investing in the students' futures.

"The University salutes not only the success of the students, but also the support of our donors who make this success possible," said president Alastair Summerlee. "This year, with the help of our donors, the University will provide more than \$19 million in student aid, which reflects a considerable amount of support and a commitment by the community to

accessibility."

In opening remarks, chancellor Lincoln Alexander acknowledged the President's and Chancellor's Scholars and other award recipients and praised the University's scholarship and bursary program. "Recognizing leaders, encouraging success and giving help where it is needed — those are the goals of the awards program," he said.

Maureen Mancuso, acting provost and vice-president (academic), said the criteria for all these awards begin with academic excellence. "Some awards also consider other factors such as leadership qualities, extracurricular activities, community involvement and/or financial aid," she said.

Among the University representatives taking part in the awards event was food science professor Art Hill, president of the U of G Faculty Association, who presented the annual UGFA Scholarship to Rosalind Abdool of the College of Arts. Established 20 years ago, the \$1,500 award goes to the student from Wellington

County entering U of G with the highest admission average.

"This is really what it's all about — to recognize our students and to help them along the way," said Hill.

The United Steelworkers LU 4120 Scholarship, valued at \$800, was presented by Local 4120 president Margaret Carter to Michael Carey of the College of Physical and Engineering Science, whose parents are both U of G employees and members of Local 4120.

Student wellness educator Marlene Plaff presented the \$1,000 Stephanie Wilken Volunteer Award with Wilken's father to Breanne Anderson of the College of Biological Science. This award was established in memory of Wilken, a 1995 BA graduate of Guelph who died in 1998. It is awarded annually to an undergraduate student who has been a volunteer for at least two semesters at U of G's Wellness Centre.

Bursaries or financial-needs awards were also acknowledged. One of the programs highlighted was the Central Student Association

Opportunity Trust. It was created through a referendum vote in 2002 when Guelph students decided to establish an endowment fund to provide bursaries for students who need support but are ineligible for traditional forms of financial aid.

"In the 2002/2003 academic year, 36 of these bursaries, totalling \$29,850, were distributed to full- and part-time undergraduate and diploma students," said political science student Josh Alcock. He noted that \$30,000 will be available for the bursary program in 2003/2004.

Three new annual undergraduate awards were announced at the ceremony: the R. Douglas and Kathleen Kennedy Scholarship for OAC, the R. Douglas and Kathleen Kennedy Scholarship for the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences, each valued at \$1,000, and the \$5,000 Mordechai Rozanski History Scholarship, which was established this summer by the Jean Rich Foundation to honour Rozanski's 10 year-term as U of G's president.

BY RACHELLE COOPER



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Helen Maciag

# Power of the PEN

Resin-enhanced bottles protect juice colour, vitamin C



Juice bottles reinforced with a UV light-blocking resin could help protect juice colour and vitamin C content for consumers such as U of G student and SPARK writer Leslie Irons. PHOTO BY PAULA BIALSKI

**P**LASTIC JUICE bottles enhanced with an ultraviolet (UV) light-blocking resin could help reduce degradation of colour and vitamin C in the juice by as much as half, U of G researchers have determined.

The degradation occurs in sunlight because clear plastic juice containers are made of polyethylene terephthalate, which doesn't block UV rays effectively. Now, food science professor Ian Britt, engineering professor Valerie Davidson and graduate student Karen Conrad say improving these containers with a resin called polyethylene naphthalate (PEN) can give consumers a healthier, longer-lasting product.

"Food packaging is central in delivering safe, nutritious foods to Canadian consumers," says Britt. "This work is only part of a continuing effort at Guelph to develop a sound understanding of how packaging systems can be designed to protect sensitive food products."

Typically, high temperatures cause juices to darken in colour. But the U of G researchers found that some juices are initially bleached by UV light. The intense rays also speed degradation, reducing product shelf life to as little as one-third of that found under commercial lighting and dark conditions.

For their study, the researchers bottled apple and orange juices in plastic blended without PEN and in plastic blended with PEN at levels of 0.25, one and four per cent. For seven months, they stored one group of the juices in dark controlled-environment chambers, a second group in commercial fluorescent lighting (conditions that are typical in retail outlets) and a third group in intense UV light conditions. To determine the degradation of vitamin C, they used a chemistry lab technique called high-performance liquid chromatography, which is used to separate mixtures and measure concentrations of their components. Colour degradation was measured in terms of lightening or darkening of juice colour using colour-detecting instruments.

The study showed that bottles with PEN provided greater protection

against degradation of vitamin C and colour in the tested juices, primarily under the UV storage conditions. "We were really surprised at how a small amount of PEN could have such a positive impact," says Conrad.

Further research will look at how other juices and sports drinks are affected by light conditions.

"This is just the beginning," says Davidson. "The findings are interesting, but there are many things that are still unexplained," including why certain synthetic dyes are more unstable in sunlight than others.

Conrad adds that some blue- and red-coloured sports drinks have been bleached under UV conditions to the point of becoming clear within two to four hours.

"Now that we know PEN is efficient, the market potential is great for such a product," she says.

Currently, there is no known industrial use of PEN-blended plastic juice bottles. Although PEN is known for its resistance to high temperature and UV light, it is a costly material to buy for use in plastics. Further studies will test new plastics with various PEN contents to find a balance between increased shelf life and affordability.

BY KIM WAALDERBOS  
SPARK PROGRAM

## Lecture Looks at Role of Animal Caretakers

Director of Australia's Animal Welfare Centre to give OAC's Presant Memorial Lecture

**"D**OES THE ANIMAL Caretaker Need to Care? The Importance of Human-Animal Interaction for the Welfare of Farm and Companion Animals" is the topic of this year's F.W. Presant Memorial Lecture hosted by the Ontario Agricultural College.

Paul Hemsworth, a professor in the faculty of agriculture, forestry and horticulture at the University of Melbourne and director of the Animal Welfare Centre in Australia, will talk about the growing attention being paid to the importance of stockpeople on the welfare of farm animals Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. in the On-

tario Veterinary College's Lifetime Learning Centre cafeteria. The event is free.

Animal welfare audits and training modules for livestock handlers and truckers are being developed across North America, says Prof. Tina Widowski, Animal and Poultry Science.

"It's timely to be thinking about stockperson training and the importance of the stockperson," she says. "Prof. Hemsworth is well-respected as a researcher in this area and has been very successful in applying his research knowledge in training programs for stockpeople."

Hemsworth studies how the social and physical environment affects the behaviour, productivity and welfare of farm animals. During the past two decades, his research has emphasized the importance of stockperson attitudes and their impact on livestock productivity.

The lecture is being hosted by the Department of Animal and Poultry Science and the Colonel K.L. Campbell Centre for the Study of Animal Welfare. The centre is the longest-established research program in animal welfare in North America, has more than 50 associated faculty members across campus and is led

by Prof. Ian Duncan, who holds the University's Chair in Animal Welfare.

The memorial lecture is named for 1923 OAC graduate Fred Presant, who served as the first chair of the OAC advisory board and chaired the Board of Regents during the formation of U of G in 1964. He died in 1996.

Established in 1988, the lecture is supported by the OAC Alumni Foundation and is held in alternate years. For more information, contact Janice DeMoore at Ext. 56728 or jdemoor@uoguelph.ca.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

## the science of life the art of living

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

### PhD Students to Benefit From Syngenta Gift

**O**UTSTANDING PHD STUDENTS doing novel research in sustainable agriculture will benefit from a gift to the Campaign for the University of Guelph from Syngenta Crop Protection Canada Inc.

Syngenta has provided a \$200,000 endowment for doctoral scholarships, available to students conducting research in sustainable agriculture in areas such as environmental quality, resources management, integrated pest management, new technologies, economic viability and rural community sustainability. The \$5,000-per-semester awards will be available in the fall of 2004 and matched by funding from the Ontario Graduate Scholarship Program. Award winners will excel in their research work and their ability to serve as mentors and leaders to other students.

"We are delighted with this generous donation," says OAC dean Craig Pearson. "It's a solid endorsement of our strength and leadership in the agri-food sector and as a student-centred, research-focused university. It will significantly strengthen graduate student engagement in agricultural sustainability and attract the best students to

Guelph."

Syngenta president Jay Bradshaw calls the gift "an investment in the future of agriculture. Syngenta's focus is on sustainable agriculture, which requires a balance of farming practices that are environmentally sound, socially responsible and economically viable. Innovation is an important component of that process and in ensuring that Canada remains competitive in the world's agricultural markets. This endowment will help provide enhanced access to the knowledge and technology that allow researchers to discover new opportunities in agribusiness."

Syngenta Canada Inc., which has offices in Guelph's Research Park, is a division of Syngenta, a world leader in innovative crop protection and seeds research. The company employs some 20,000 people in more than 90 countries.

It also established the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture and the Syngenta Research Centers of Excellence to promote new research and sustainable development around the world.

## College of Arts Speaker Series to Host Screening and Talk by Documentary Filmmaker

Genie Award-winning film explores life stories of five women in Kingston prison

**A**WARD-WINNING documentary filmmaker Janis Cole will screen her film *P4W: Prison for Women* and will discuss filmmaking in Canada Nov. 3 at 7 p.m. in Room 120 of the MacKinnon Building.

The free public event is part of the 2003/2004 College of Arts speaker series on film and literature. The goal of the series is to expose the community to the world of filmmakers, screenwriters and authors. The lecture is co-sponsored by the School of English and Theatre Studies and the U of G Alumni Association.

"Janis Cole has had a profound effect on documentary filmmaking in Canada," says PhD candidate Debra Henderson, former deputy director of the Canadian Film Centre and former director of the education and training department at the

American Film Institute. "Her work is challenging and gritty and not easily forgotten. Together with her filmmaking partner, Holly Dale, Janis gives voice to those who live on the margins of society."

Cole has been making films for 28 years and has represented Canadian cinema at film festivals worldwide, including in Tokyo, Australia, Switzerland, France and Israel. She was the inaugural writer-in-residence for the Toronto International Film Festival's screenwriter mentorship program and currently teaches writing at the Ontario College of Art and Design.

She has won a number of awards for her screenwriting and filmmaking, including a Genie for *P4W*, the Bronze Plaque Award for script at the Columbus Film Festival, a Top

10 Award from the Writers Guild of Canada for the CBC-TV movie *Dangerous Offender*, and the Toronto International Film Festival's Best Short Film Award for *Shuggie*.

Cole has also received a Theatrical Producers Achievement Award from the Canadian Film and Television Association and a Toronto Arts Award for Achievement in Media.

*P4W* explores the life stories of five women inside the Prison for Women in Kingston, which closed its doors July 6, 2000, after 66 years in operation.

"*P4W* reveals the human and emotional dimension of the women behind their prison life," says Henderson. "It is powerful and dramatic filmmaking."

BY RACHELLE COOPER

# 'Universities Should Be the Moral and Social Conscience of Society'

Editor's note: The following is the text of the address given by president Alastair Summerlee during his installation ceremony Oct. 10.

I WANT TO EXPRESS MY THANKS to the University of Guelph community for their incredible support over the last several years and for their confidence in naming me as the seventh president of the University of Guelph. It is truly the most incredible honour and privilege — and it is because I believe that a university is the best possible place for any individual to be able to work. It is unique and marvelous. It is a community engaged in inquiry, engaged in the preservation, transmission and advancement of both knowledge and humane values: a place that brings together people of all ages, a place of religious breadth, of racial and ethnic diversity, of academic endeavours that embrace the whole of the human experience. It is a place that is populated by scholars seeking, questioning, analyzing, synthesizing, refuting, debating, refining and creating at the very outer limits of human thought. As such, it is in my view the most vibrant and noble of institutions. It is for this reason that I am truly privileged to have the opportunity to serve as the vice-chancellor of one of Canada's foremost universities.

I believe that universities should be the moral and social conscience of society: a society that sadly faces many, many difficult and even dangerous decisions over the next several years. All too often these days, we hear of corporate and public scandals, the threat of terrorism and intolerance, rampant consumerism, the lingering economic doldrums, the deterioration of our environment, and considerable tension between the developed and developing worlds. All of these factors and more have unleashed a period of extreme uncertainty and extraordinary change. Possibly more than ever, society needs people who are armed with knowledge and experience, people who are willing to be open-minded, level-headed and concerned about the world. It is my fervent belief that universities and colleges, particularly Canadian institutions, have a vital role to play in the health and welfare of our society and in the care of our world.

In a recent Ipsos-Reid survey about the position that Canada plays on the world stage, Canadians were identified as agents to be trusted: trusted in the middle of the divide between the rich and the poor, between the aggressor and the defenceless, and as the potential arbiters of numerous disputes and practices. Universities and colleges must be central in the debates about these issues, and Guelph will play its part in the moral and social debate as educators for change, as agents for effective and socially responsible research, and as the training ground for future minds and for the future.

Yet, despite all these concerns and challenges that are facing us, I do believe that the future is bright. It may be challenging, but it is bright. Nelson Mandela once wrote that however dark the future seems, the hope that tomorrow dawns afresh drives him to awake again renewed. There will be new vistas and new challenges, he said, and we will be successful. His commitment and his achievements in his life are an inspiration to all of us because come what may, tomorrow will dawn afresh.

The University of Guelph is built on the strongest foundations. Our founding colleges forged our past, created our sense of heritage and our traditions, and set us on a course for the future. In that regard, I am honoured also by having every living

past president and acting president of the University of Guelph here today, as well as the founding chair of the board. Today is as much a celebration of their achievements and vision as it is a celebration of my installation. It is their traditions, their values and their spirit that I inherit. Perhaps I would be permitted to say, in the home of Col. John McCrae, it is their torch that I intend to hold on high. Over the next five years, the capacity and reputation of the University of Guelph will continue to expand on the national and international stages, but we will not lose our



*"I am truly privileged to have the opportunity to serve as the vice-chancellor of one of Canada's foremost universities."*

commitment to the caring values and attitudes that make this campus so unique.

Among all the priorities and actions that clamour for attention, I have chosen to highlight three for today. Three that I hope will set the tone and guide the University in that development. First and foremost, I will be a tireless advocate for accessible and affordable public education: a quality education within a system to be proud of. This university has on a number of occasions taken actions directly in support of publicly funded quality higher education, and I will work with the other members of the Council of Ontario Universities, staff, faculty and students at the University of Guelph, and members of the government to ensure that students who have the intellectual capacity to benefit from a University of Guelph degree will be able to do so.

Second, I would like to build on that position of trust that is seen to be the purview of Canadians. We must take the steps to regain the position that universities should hold as that moral,

social and intellectual centre of society and societies at both the national and international levels. We must seize the opportunities to not just promote a liberal education, but to encourage members of our community to develop a moral compass, a generosity of spirit, a compassionate heart, civility, respect for diversity, fortitude and an overwhelming passion for justice. We must take the lead in debates and in actions on a number of critical issues, including developing and sustaining environments, the life sciences agenda, ethics and ethical behaviour, and cultural diversity. Only by regaining that intellectual high ground can we hope to fulfil our true promise.

Third, we have a responsibility to continue the innovation agenda in every aspect of the University: in teaching, in research, both pure and applied, and in service within and outside the community and the city, to whom we so integrally are linked. Only by continuing to innovate, whilst caring about others, can we truly make a difference in this world.

To achieve these lofty ideals will take a great deal of work, and at times it will not be glamorous. Thomas Edison observed that for most of us, opportunity comes dressed in overalls and disguised as work. Experience tells me that members of the Guelph community are not afraid of work. They are not afraid of taking risks. And I am certainly not afraid of putting on those overalls and joining in that hard work.

Like all of us as we move through our lives, I owe a great deal to a number of people. Many of my friends, my teachers, my advisers and members of my family have paid me the honour of attending this ceremony today. Sadly, some of my mentors and friends are no longer here, but rest assured that the advice and counsel that they offered is locked in my heart and in my brain. To each of you, I say a very heartfelt thank you for your support, your patience and your encouragement. There is no doubt that today would not have been possible for me without you.

Finally, let me talk about the team of people here at the University of Guelph. Compared with my elegant colleagues, who spoke just now about their feelings on the University of Guelph, I feel tongue-tied. They say it all in their different aspects, from the alumni association to the faculty association to the staff association to students, both graduate and undergraduate. Everyone in this community means something to the community, and part of my mission for committing to Guelph is because of that considerable level of caring. This place is all about its people, its collaborative community, and we share in everything that we do, including being part of our local city. I look forward to working with all of you and thank each of you for the kind words of welcome extended to me.

I cannot end this address without quoting from my favourite poet, Walt Whitman. In my view, the University of Guelph is set on a fair course for the future. I pledge myself to its traditions, to its values, and I will work in humility — and sometimes in overalls if necessary — to do everything I can to steer and support this craft for the future. So I give you these paraphrased words from Whitman: "Sail forth, steer for the deep waters only, for we are bound where no one has yet dared to go. And we will risk the ship, ourselves and our all . . . Bounding, O soul, we journeyest far."

Mr. Chancellor, O my captain and my hero, I am truly honoured to take the helm of the University of Guelph.

## Math Survival Kit a Resource Students Can Count On

A NEW MATHEMATICS "survival kit" written by a U of G professor is intended to help students navigate the shoals of first-year math.

Prof. Jack Weiner, Mathematics and Statistics, wrote *The Mathematics Survival Kit* — published this fall by Nelson — as a look-up guide to common math concepts that routinely plague students.

"I see the problems that come up consistently," says Weiner, an award-winning instructor who routinely teaches introductory calculus to classes of 400 to 550 students.

His 240-page soft-cover book contains 115 topics, from factoring,

polynomials, linear algebra and quadratic equations to square roots, logarithms and exponents, continuity and trigonometry. Each topic in the manual-cum-workbook consists of a one-page explanation of the concept with examples, then a second page for the user to work out two sample questions.

Weiner designed the book not to cure "math phobia" but to provide a handy reference tool for students stranded on a particular concept during review or homework.

"That's why it's called a survival kit. It consists of typical topics you need to complete a problem in your current course where the technique

is rooted in a previous course."

First-year computing science student Dave Heppenstall says the book has "all of the high school notes I didn't bring. It's a great thing to have nearby if you forget the fundamentals."

Weiner designed the workbook for students from Grade 10 through university — and beyond.

"In Grade 10, a student will find 20 of the topics relevant. By the time second-year university or college rolls around, all 115 topics will prove useful."

Weiner wrote *The Mathematics Survival Kit* during a sabbatical last year. His earlier writings include the

textbook *Calculus: A Search for Meaning* and numerous articles on teaching math. A frequent speaker to other math teachers and a member of the Ontario Association for Mathematics Education, he routinely consults with high school math curriculum teachers and consultants.

He has taught for about 30 years, mostly at U of G but also at a Dundas high school. His awards include an Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations teaching award.

Students stuck on particular math concepts might try online tutorials available on the web, but Weiner says it can take days to get a

reply. Other tutorial materials require students to work sequentially through concepts before reaching what they need, he says, or they fail to give adequate examples or practice questions.

Weiner says professors at other campuses and secondary school math teachers have added material from the book to their own websites, particularly his sections on "How to Get an A in Math" and "How to Get Extra Help."

*The Mathematics Survival Kit* is available at the campus bookstore for \$8 or from the publisher at 1-800-268-2222.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

# THE MACKINNON MAESTRO

*Music-making porter helps the lost and confused find their way through campus building*

BY STACEY CURRY GUNN

VISITORS TO U OF G's MacKinnon Building usually notice two things right away. The first is the lovely, haunting instrumental music floating through the main lobby. The second is the building's confusing layout.

The source of the music and the saviour of the lost is the same person: a soft-spoken, unassuming man who occupies the little windowed office at the southwest entrance. His name is Ross Clark, and he's been the porter at MacKinnon since 1987. He's also a singer, musician, ice dancer, Irish jigger and U of G graduate, with a BA in sociology. In short, Clark is a complex character who makes his living helping people navigate a complicated place.

"It is a confusing building," he readily agrees. "I spend a lot of time at the beginning of semester telling people how to get to certain rooms."

To help with the inevitable queries, including sorting out people who aren't even in the right building, he has posted signs on his office windows, including a list of the acronyms for MacKinnon (MACK), MacNaughton (MACN), MacLachlan (MCLN) and Macdonald Institute (MAC).

"It might be clearer if this was called the arts building and if MacNaughton was the physical sciences building," he says. "That's what they used to be called. But then they might say to me: 'You don't have anything to do any more, so we're going to let you go.'"

Clark has turned giving directions into something of an art form. "I've tried a number of instructions. I have to be very specific about guiding people." Often, he has to point out the exact door people need to go through or they'll end up continuing their mystified wandering.

The trick to deciphering MacKinnon, he says, is to understand that the 10-level office block is connected on only two floors to the four-level classroom block. (There's also a three-storey wing dedicated to the music program).

It's a busy building, serving the College of Arts and the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences.

Clark's job involves security and handling deliveries. "This place runs on paper," he says. His workday begins at 6:30 a.m. when he unlocks about 100 doors to open the building. (A retired porter locks everything up in the evenings.)

"Ross is very reliable — he's here no matter what the weather," says Susan Morrison of the College of Arts dean's office, Clark's supervisor since he was hired. "If he didn't come in to unlock the building, I'd have to do it, and I've never had to do it in all these years. As a matter of fact, I don't think he's ever even been sick."

Clark's dedication to the students, staff, faculty and visitors who rely on his services is evident when he leaves his office for a few minutes. Before he goes, he sets an old-fashioned alarm clock with his return time and leaves a telephone at the edge of



the open window in case someone needs it. He also leaves a CD playing *Just Pipes* by Matthew Jones and Jan Overduin while he's gone.

"I like to think of (the music) as part of what I do. I create an ambience. It's popular with a lot of people."

The music offers a clue to the many other aspects of Clark's life. The porter's role that he has conscientiously carried out for 16 years is, in the end, just a job. "I work to live; I don't live to work. This job is how I pay to do the things I really like to do."

And what Clark really likes to do involves music, skating and dancing.

He's been ice dancing since 1995, first as a member of the Guelph Figure Skating Club and now as a member of the U of G Figure Skating Club.

He got into the sport after playing hockey all his life and deciding he wanted to improve his skating.

"I took adult power skating to improve my hockey skills. Ironically, it took only the first lesson to learn that I didn't really know how to skate at all. I took a few lessons and realized I really wanted to learn how to skate. I'd never been much of a hockey player."

Clark now goes to weekly dance sessions at the Kitchener-Waterloo Skating Club, where he pairs up with another skater to perform standardized routines. Of the 21 standard ice dances, Clark has most recently learned the Keats foxtrot, which is about halfway up the ladder of difficulty. He also goes to annual dance sessions in K-W, Barrie and Toronto.

Another love is Irish ceilidh dancing, which he first tried on St. Patrick's Day a few years ago.

"I like ceilidhs because they're a place where you can go by yourself and always be assured that you can find a partner."

Clark's love of music has also led to his participation for the last 10 years in U of G's Symphonic Choir and a chamber choir. These days, visitors to MacKinnon might hear him practising the tenor part of Benjamin Britten's *The Company of Heaven* for the Symphonic Choir's performance Nov. 28 at the River Run Centre.

During off times at the porter's office, Clark also plays his recorder occasionally. He learned how to play the instrument in a pre-classical music course he audited at U of G. Once a month, he attends a workshop in Toronto on pre-classical musical styles, given by the Toronto Early Music Players Organization.

When not working as a porter, practising his dance steps or making music, Clark can often be found cycling around Guelph on his bike. He rides it to and from work and uses it on most errands.

"I really don't believe in driving a car in the city if you are able-bodied," he says. "I'm a bike person. I use a car in the city only when I can't figure out how to do what I have to do commuting with my bike."

Not surprisingly, that commitment to the environment informs Clark's political convictions and his membership in the Green Party. He's glad to see the "great strides" the party made in the last election, garnering about 4,000 votes in Guelph. "People can hardly justify calling it a 'fringe' party any more."

His environmental commitment is yet another of the many dimensions of his life that the people who rely on him each day may never see.

A friend of Clark's once said to him: "Ross, your timing has always been good." The friend was referring to Clark's talent for picking up new dance steps, but the comment relates to other aspects of his life as well — from his punctuality in opening MacKinnon's doors every day to his ability to seize new opportunities as they arise to create a life that's varied, interesting and full.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWABE

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# Co-op Student Turns the Tables on Work Placement

New student business venture program in Co-operative Education Services recognizes the value of entrepreneurial work

**"M**ARMALADE selects only the ripest picks from the crates, interweaving solid hip-hop gems with advanced turntable elements."

These words that describe the music of skatch DJ Marmalade (a.k.a. Adam Meghji) roll strangely off my tongue. But it's a feeling akin to the DJ's initial foray into business vernacular.

Marmalade's scene didn't include balance-sheet projections, operating collateral or non-disclosure agreements until he decided to combine his plan to create an online arts collective with his need to find a co-op work placement.

A student in computing and information science by day and a popular hip-hop DJ by night, Meghji used both talents to design and launch Earwaks.com during the 2002 summer semester.

Co-op co-ordinator Bruce Wilson says Meghji's business venture met all the requirements for a co-op work term and has, in fact, served as a case study for the development of a formal program in Co-operative Education Services.

Co-op education programs

across Canada are recognizing the value of entrepreneurial work experience, says Wilson.

"Guelph's new student business venture program pulls together resources both on and off campus and formalizes procedures to make it easier for co-op students to be entrepreneurs."

Those resources include courses offered by the Guelph Business Enterprise Centre and participation in its mentoring program. Wilson says the centre is an important off-site supporter of Guelph's co-op program, providing business expertise and access to tax and legal advisers. The student's co-op adviser and faculty supervisor must, however, still approve the business venture and evaluate the actual work experience as it relates to the student's degree program.

Meghji rates his own experience with Earwaks.com as "amazing." The interactive website showcases the work of independent DJs, emcees, graf writers, poets and visual artists. It delivers music, visuals and news to viewers, and Meghji designed a system for registering members and an e-commerce func-

tionality to allow Earwaks followers to book performers and order CDs or illustrations.

"I learned what's involved in taking an idea and materializing it, making it happen," he says. "It's been a great experience to build a business from the ground up, see it catch on and become part of people's lives. Now our members rely on it."

Going into its second year of operation, Earwaks has seen its traffic grow sixfold since its September 2002 launch. A native of Waterloo, Meghji wanted to create a meeting place for local hip-hop artists, DJs and fans. He measures his success through a growing fan base, more bookings for the 12 performers represented by Earwaks (including Marmalade's DJ business) and increased credibility with some of the genre's better-known performers.

Wilson doesn't expect the student business venture program to grow with the speed of Earwaks.com. Only about 10 per cent of co-op students currently source their own jobs, and as Meghji attests, business development takes a lot of "sweat equity."

"We're looking for people with

an innate ability as entrepreneurs," says Wilson. "This co-op option will help them challenge their abilities and gain experience in business ownership."

He explains that applicants will participate in a self-assessment to validate their entrepreneurial preparedness, write a business plan, identify financial and human resources, and set work-term objectives. These requirements must be completed in the semester preceding the actual work term.

Like all co-op students, the entrepreneurs will work full time during the work term as they launch and manage their business, service customers and monitor results.

"It's like doing two jobs — employee and manager — at the same time," adds Meghji, who has also had co-op jobs as a network security programmer for Intellicats in Kitchener and a web programmer for the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

He rates the new student business venture program as a great way for students to find out what it's like to start a business, especially if it's something they might be interested

in after graduation. "That's the purpose of co-op — to encourage you to try something new."

A hallmark of co-op education is that students receive financial compensation for their work placements, although Wilson cautions that those enrolled in the business venture program will be exposed to the normal risks of entrepreneurship.

"The student's venture must generate revenue, but we will be primarily evaluating the work experience, not the financial success of the business."

So is Meghji. He admits that Earwaks.com has generated more revenue for the hip-hop artists it promotes than for its owners, but says that was part of the initial plan. In November, he and his business partner — a high school friend now studying at Ryerson University — will unveil a new Earwaks web design with a more aggressive marketing approach that they hope will boost the profits of their dot.com business.

More information on the business venture program is available online at [www.coop.uoguelph.ca/businessventureprogram](http://www.coop.uoguelph.ca/businessventureprogram).

BY MARY DICKIESON

## Teaming Up Against Disease Microbes

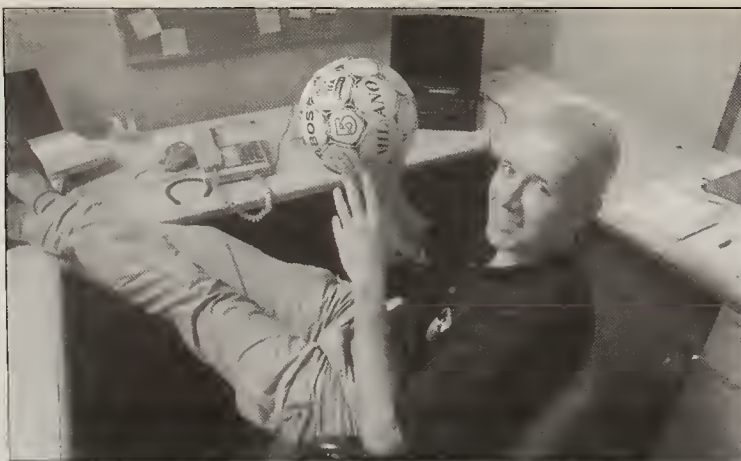
Microbiologist studies bugs behind whooping cough and other human and animal afflictions

**P**ROF. ANDREW PRESTON, a recent arrival from England in the Department of Microbiology, is about to head into a departmental meeting when his wife, Claire Woodall, arrives at his office, eager to show off her purchases from the University Bookstore. Sounding as if she's ready to launch a new British invasion into Canada's wilderness, she exclaims over full-colour plates in a field guide to North American insects.

Having just mentioned his own interest in trying out Ontario's ski slopes, Preston hangs back, clearly less taken with the idea of hunting down six-legged creatures in Algonquin Park. He leaves Woodall to describe their journey as microbiologists from the University of Cambridge to Guelph, where Preston's faculty posting started at the beginning of October.

If he's less than enthusiastic about one kind of bug in Canada's great outdoors, he is anything but ambivalent about another kind of "bug" that has driven his research interests since his own undergraduate days. He studies respiratory pathogens, especially the family of bacteria that causes whooping cough in children and related afflictions in animals. His work in infection processes and host range and restriction might eventually help clinical researchers develop new kinds of vaccines against disease-causing bacteria.

Although infants and children in developed countries are routinely vaccinated against whooping cough, the highly contagious disease affects



Twin passions for new microbiology professor Andrew Preston are his research and soccer.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

20 million to 40 million people worldwide and kills between 200,000 and 400,000 each year, according to statistics from the World Health Organization.

Preston studies *Bordetella pertussis*, which causes whooping cough in children, as well as two related species that cause respiratory disease in animals, notably kennel cough in dogs.

Explaining that his work might ultimately yield information for clinical researchers elsewhere, including scientists working on possible booster shots for adults, he says he's more interested in studying basic mechanisms such as the workings

of components on bacterial surfaces.

"It's that interface of interaction between host and pathogen that is really fundamental. It's where the action is going on."

As a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Cambridge, Preston led a research group funded by the Wellcome Trust that worked with the Sanger Centre to sequence the genomes of all three bacterial species.

"Down the road, you like to think you're developing new therapies," says Preston, who calls the pertussis bacterium a "meaty" and intellectually fulfilling problem to tackle. "All future advances come from a funda-

mental science research base."

His fascination with the field stems from biochemistry studies first at high school and then at the University of Oxford. He completed his PhD at Oxford in 1994, then spent three years as a post-doc at the University of Iowa before moving back to England.

He had always wanted to be an academic researcher. "The entire research community is beaver away at the world's most enormous jigsaw puzzle."

Holding up both hands, he says: "You might have two seemingly unrelated pieces and you start to see a picture forming. Really, you become

so caught up. It's such an involved process; each experiment is an all-consuming task."

At Cambridge's department of clinical veterinary medicine, he worked with Duncan Maskell, a leading researcher in food-borne and human and animal pathogens. (It was also at Cambridge that he met Woodall, a food microbiologist.) But he was looking for new opportunities when a position came up at Guelph.

Prof. Chris Whitfield, acting chair of the Department of Microbiology, notes that several faculty in the department have interests in the architecture and assembly of bacterial cell surfaces. "Andrew will expand our range of activities by looking specifically at how these structures interact with host tissue during infection," he says.

Preston is now writing a grant application to the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council. He already has funding from the Canadian Bacterial Diseases Network for collaborations with researchers at the University of Alberta and the National Research Council in Ottawa.

He sees his own work complementing that of Whitfield and colleague Prof. Joseph Lam. "Chris and Joe are world-renowned," he says.

Not to mention the opportunity he has to meet fellow U.K. native Whitfield on a different kind of field. They've teamed up for five-a-side soccer on Friday evenings. Says Woodall: "Andy has two passions: his work and football."

BY ANDREW VOWLES

# Lab Explores Relationships Between Feeding, Fish Growth

*Fish nutritionist plans to expand facility with CFI funding*

**"A**FISH IS ELASTIC." Prof. Dominique Bureau, Animal and Poultry Science, might be referring to the sinuous ballet of pencil-length rainbow trout and Atlantic salmon weaving back and forth in hundreds of tanks filling a basement lab in the Animal Science and Nutrition Building.

But he's talking about what can't be seen, especially how factors like water temperature affect the efficiency of nutrient use and growth in fish. It's not just a matter of following a simple growth formula — feed them more food and they'll all pack on the pounds equally — because fish are fickle.

"The environment plays a significant role in how fast they grow," says Bureau, head of U of G's Fish Nutrition Research Laboratory.

Learning more about the relationships between feeding and fish growth is the purpose of renovations he plans to this and other labs with recent funding worth a total of about \$300,000 from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), as well as matching funding from the Ontario Innovation Trust and industry.

Besides learning more about fish nutrition for its own sake, he will update equipment and facilities to help devise more efficient feeding strategies intended to benefit growers in an expanding aquaculture industry. Some 30 per cent of fish and shellfish produced in Canada come from fish farms, compared with about five per cent a quarter-century ago, says Prof. Rich Moccia, director of the Aquaculture Centre at U of G's Alma Research Station.

The Fish Nutrition Research Lab — actually a scattering of half a dozen labs around the building — allows Bureau and his team of scientists to determine how to feed fish more efficiently.

"The lab looks in a very rational manner at how fish grow and use feed," says Bureau, who notes that the Guelph lab differs from other facilities in its broad-based approach to nutrition in freshwater fish. "Our bread and butter is nutrient budgets."

He's particularly interested in salmonids — trout and salmon species — as well as walleye and yellow perch.

Much of that work involves studying how efficiently fish convert protein and other nutrients to flesh, as well as how they use energy. He also wants to learn more about nutrients they don't use, including phosphorus, a key environmental pollutant generated by fish farms.

Turning fish into more efficient eating machines is important for industry growers looking for more fish flesh for the buck. That's no small consideration for the expanding aquaculture industry, worth about \$20 million in Ontario and about \$750 million in Canada, says Moccia.

Feed alone makes up about 60 per cent of the cost of producing a



Prof. Dominique Bureau, head of U of G's Fish Nutrition Research Laboratory, poses with one of the many tanks scientists use to experiment with dietary compounds and various fish species.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

fish. "To ignore feeding efficiencies and nutrient utilization would be a gross oversight," says Moccia, who has almost completed equipment upgrades at the Aquaculture Centre, funded through an earlier \$240,000 CFI grant for studying warm-water fish species.

Under contract to the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Bureau's lab also formulates the feed recipe for fish raised in 10 culture stations around the province. Although private companies make and supply the feed, "we provide the formula," he says. In what he calls a form of technology transfer, those feed formulas have strongly influenced the production of fish feed in Europe, Chile and Asia.

Established in 1969 as the first facility of its kind in Canada, the lab initially made a name for itself based on its diet formulations. Bureau says fish feed had traditionally been produced without much consideration for nutrient analysis or environmental impact of waste.

Under the direction of the late professor Stanley Slinger and now-retired professor Young Cho, the laboratory applied principles of animal and poultry nutrition to develop fish feeding products and strategies.

"We work with manufacturers to improve feed and fish efficiencies," Bureau says.

He and his team work with fish farmers in Ontario, but also field calls from feed manufacturers and fish growers on Canada's west and east coasts and in other countries

from Chile to New Zealand.

The largest of the labs in the Animal Science and Nutrition Building contains hundreds of tanks connected into systems that allow the researchers to experiment with dietary compounds and various fish species, some of them raised from eggs right there in the building. Cho developed the fibreglass tanks, each slightly larger than a kitchen sink. Fish nutrition researchers in some 10 countries now use the so-called "Guelph system," including the settling columns used to collect waste and measure efficiency of digestion.

Bureau's interest in fish nutrition dates back to an exchange trip he took while studying agriculture at Laval University. He travelled to Thailand, where he saw fish and farming come together in farmers' rice paddies. He came to Guelph in 1992 to complete his PhD, then became a research assistant in Cho's lab.

From just four researchers a decade ago, the lab has grown to encompass about eight graduate students, three post-doctoral researchers and three technicians. Originally part of the then Department of Nutritional Sciences, the lab was transferred to the Department of Animal and Poultry Science in 1997.

The new CFI funding will pay for lab space and analytical equipment to be used not just by the fish nutritionists, but also by researchers studying nutrition in pigs, poultry and cattle.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

## ACADEMIC INFO CORNER

**Editor's note:** This column is part of a continuing series running periodically throughout the 2003/2004 academic year. It is written by David Hornsby, academic commissioner of the Central Student Association, and Shari Dorr, co-ordinator of the Undergraduate Academic Information Centre.

**I**T MAY SEEM TO SOME that the fall semester has only just begun, but we are, in fact, already beyond the midway point and are quickly approaching the drop deadline of the 40th class day, which falls on Nov. 3.

This is the last day undergraduate students can drop a one-semester course without academic penalty. (The drop deadline for two-semester courses that began in September is in January.) Courses that aren't dropped by Nov. 3 will remain on a student's academic record whether they are passed or failed. Dropping a course after the 40th class day is allowed only in exceptional circumstances and requires the approval of a program counsellor or the Academic Review Committee.

Most students can drop a course without obtaining approval. These students are encouraged to use WebAdvisor, but can also use the paper process through Undergraduate Program Services on Level 3 of the University Centre. Students who are on probation or whose student type is "special" must process drops through the paper process after receiving program counsellor approval. Students under investigation for alleged academic misconduct can't drop the course that is the subject

of an investigation while it is ongoing. These students must also use the paper process and obtain approval to drop any other course.

In deciding whether to drop a course by the 40th class day, students should consider the pros and cons. If the student is doing poorly in a course and doesn't think he or she can complete it successfully based on interim grades, being able to drop the course without academic penalty is a pro. On the con side, tuition fees are totally non-refundable by this point, and the student may have completed a significant portion of coursework that he or she will have to repeat if the course is retaken. The cons should not, however, deter students from dropping a course if continuing in it will negatively affect their academic performance and, consequently, their status under continuation-of-study requirements.

Students who would like to discuss a drop decision in more detail can consult with their program counsellor. The CSA academic commissioner is also available to speak with students.

To help students make good academic decisions about dropping or continuing a course, instructors should strive to provide feedback for completed term work before the 40th class day.

After the drop deadline, course instructors should update their class lists to determine if changes have occurred. Current lists can be obtained using the class roster option of WebAdvisor for faculty (<https://webadvisor.uoguelph.ca>) or through the Colleague class lists website at [www.ors.uoguelph.ca/staff/class\\_lists](http://www.ors.uoguelph.ca/staff/class_lists).



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# Movie, Talent Show Among United Way Fundraisers

**D**RESS IN YOUR scariest costume and meet your friends for a noon-hour viewing of the *Rocky Horror Picture Show* Oct. 31 in Peter Clark Hall. Tickets are \$5 and include popcorn and a drink. Tickets will be on sale over the noon hour Oct. 27 to 30 in the UC courtyard.

The event is sponsored by United Way canvassers in Co-operative Education Services, Institutional Analysis and Planning, Communications and Public Affairs and the President's Office.

Hospitality Services is raising money for the United Way by stag-

ing an evening talent show Nov. 14 at War Memorial Hall. Everyone with a talent is invited to sign up and participate in the show. Performances should be no longer than 15 minutes and should be suitable for a family audience.

To sign up, call Robin Ruda at Ext. 52993 or send e-mail to ruda@hrs.uoguelph.ca. Tickets for the show are \$5 general, \$3 for students and children.

Lamb samosas, saag paneer, coconut shrimp skewers and mango fool. You and seven friends could enjoy these tasty dishes and more if you're the winner of a special United

Way draw for an Indian dinner prepared by staff in the Human Rights and Equity Office (HREO). Tickets are \$10 and can be obtained from any HREO staff member or by calling Ext. 53000.

More than 100 United Way donors on campus will win prizes such as ice cream, wine and champagne, homemade desserts, lunch at the Aberfoyle Mill, an oil change and car wash, and gift certificates from a variety of local retail outlets in the annual United Way incentive draws. Return your pledge card to be eligible for the three remaining draws Oct. 23 and 30 and Nov. 3.

# Rural Studies Program Hosts Sociologist as Visiting Scholar

**W**ELL-KNOWN Canadian sociologist and author Gordon Laxer will be on campus as rural studies visiting scholar Oct. 30. He will give a talk titled "Not for Sale: Decommodifying Public Life and Nature" at 7 p.m. in the OVC Lifetime Learning Centre cafeteria.

Laxer is director of the Parkland Institute, a research network based at the University of Alberta. He has taken part in debates on globaliza-

tion and the United States, Canadian economic sovereignty, developing an accommodation with Quebec, and opposing the dismantling of public services.

"There are certain lines that can't be crossed with the public, and health care and public education seem to be two of them," says lecture organizer Jennifer Sumner, a post-doctoral researcher in Guelph's rural studies program. "(Laxer) will

add to the public discussion of what's important to us as people."

Laxer is the principal investigator of the Globalism Project, a \$1.9-million, five-year collaboration involving 19 researchers in Canada, Mexico, Australia and Norway. His book *Open for Business: The Roots of Foreign Ownership in Canada* received the 1992 John Porter Award from the Canadian Association of Sociology and Anthropology.



## Where Are You Now?

Does this spot on campus look familiar? If you know where it is, be the first to submit the correct answer and you'll be recognized with a mention in the next issue of *@Guelph* and have your name entered in a prize draw to be held at the end of the semester. Send your response to r.cooper@exec.uoguelph.ca or call Ext. 56982. The first person to correctly identify last week's inaugural "Where Are You Now?" photo was Mary Leunissen of the School of Engineering. The photo was a close-up view of a column on the Hutt Building.

PHOTO BY MARY DICKIESON

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## LETTERS

### FIRE DIVISION SAYS THANKS

The University Fire Division thanks members of the University community for their tolerance and understanding during our annual fire drill campaign. We care about your safety, and this is one way for you to become aware of the warning signals inside the buildings you occupy, as well as the closest means of exit from the building.

A few safety observations to consider when the alarm sounds:

- Always assume the alarm is real (not an accident or test).
- Leave the building by the nearest exit as quickly as possible and in an orderly fashion.
- Alert others as you leave in case they're not aware of or familiar with the warning alarm.
- Close doors behind you to stop the spread of smoke and fire.
- Once outside, move well away from the building (at least 100 feet or 30 metres).
- Never re-enter the building until a fire or police official has indicated it is safe to do so. A silenced alarm doesn't indicate that it's safe to re-enter. Wait for verbal acknowledgment.

We appreciate your participation in the fire drills. Thank you, and may your time at U of G be a fire-safe experience.

Howard Roszel, Mario Deschamps and Karen MacDonald  
Fire Prevention Officers

# Goodall Encourages Young People to Make a Difference

*Continued from page 1*

Many of her publications, including her most recent book, *The 10 Trusts: What We Must Do to Care for the Animals We Love*, will be available at the event.

She will spend the afternoon with Roots & Shoots members as they take part in activities at the Arboretum Centre.

Goodall founded the Roots & Shoots program in 1991 with some students in Tanzania, Africa, who wanted to create a platform for young people to contribute to their communities. Twelve years later, there are 5,000 groups in more than 70 countries.

The Guelph Roots & Shoots office opened in September 2002 to offer schools, teachers, youth leaders and youth groups a series of educational presentations addressing local and global biodiversity and social issues, as well as workshops encouraging young people to take action in their community.

Goodall received a PhD in ethology from Cambridge University in 1965 and has received more than 20 honorary degrees from universities and colleges around the world. She has done groundbreaking work on

the life and sociobiology of chimpanzees and other primates and is the author of dozens of books and articles.

Her research is now the longest-running study of any animal in its natural habitat and has revolutionized the knowledge of primates, showing how strikingly similar to humans they are. In response to global habitat loss and the critically endangered status of many species, including chimpanzees, Goodall now spends her time lecturing, sharing her message of hope for the future and encouraging young people to make a difference in their world.

The recipient of hundreds of awards, she was named a United Nations Messenger of Peace by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan in 2002 and was recently honoured with the Dame of the British Empire title from Queen Elizabeth.

Tickets for the lecture are \$17.50 for adults, \$14.50 for those under 16. To order tickets, call 1-888-88chimp or Martin at Ext. 58736. For more information about the Roots & Shoots program, visit the website [www.janegoodall.ca](http://www.janegoodall.ca).

BY RACHELLE COOPER

# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR RENT

One-bedroom apartment, seven minutes to campus, two minutes to river, suitable for student, laundry, cable, no lease, no parking, \$575 a month plus hydro, 763-0449 or mnelisch@uoguelph.ca.

One-bedroom semi-furnished apartment, walkout basement, close to downtown, available Nov. 1, \$550 a month inclusive, 826-5279.

One bedroom plus den in charming coach house, parking, non-smokers, no pets, available Dec. 1, references, \$850 a month plus utilities, 836-7807.

One bedroom in five-bedroom house, bus stop at door, five-minute walk to downtown, relaxed environment, \$300 a month plus utilities, price negotiable, Jen, 763-1950 or jbalwin@uoguelph.ca.

Furnished two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes, France, weekly or monthly; furnished one-bedroom apartment in Paris, short-term rental, fmmoll@webtv.net.

One-bedroom basement apartment in quiet neighbourhood, suitable for one person, gas fireplace, separate entrance, parking for one car, close to shopping and bus stop, non-smoker, no pets, available immediately, references required, \$550 a month, including utilities, Angie, 821-9693.

## WANTED

Bachelor or one-bedroom apartment until April 30, prefer cooking facilities, parking, quiet location, close to campus, rent up to \$600 a

month inclusive, nollow\_rider@hotmail.com.

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Women's size 6½ soccer shoes, shinpads, tphillip@uoguelph.ca.

Classifieds is a free service available to staff, faculty, students, alumni and retirees of the University. Submit items to Linda Graham on Level 4 of the University Centre, fax to 519-824-7962 or send e-mail to lgraham@exec.uoguelph.ca.

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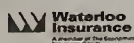
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## ARBORETUM

The Arboretum's Sunday afternoon walks continue Oct. 26 with "Halloween Quest," Nov. 2 with "Wilderness Detectives" and Nov. 9 with a hike on the McCrae Memorial Trail. The walks leave from the Nature Centre at 2 p.m. A donation of \$3 is suggested.

Naturalist Chris Earley leads a gull workshop Nov. 14 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. An optional one-day field trip to the Niagara River and Niagara Falls is planned for Nov. 15. Cost is \$65. Registration and payment are required by Oct. 31.

The Arboretum's Theatre in the Trees presents the farce *Boeing Boeing* by Marc Camoletti and Beverley Cross beginning Nov. 1. Doors open at 6 p.m. Cost is \$53. For tickets, call Ext. 54110.

## ART CENTRE

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre holds its annual general meeting Nov. 3 at 12:30 p.m. At 1 p.m., the latest addition to the Donald Forster Sculpture Park, Derek Sullivan's *Push Pin*, will be unveiled. A reception will follow.

The art centre's annual "Beyond the Frame" auction party will be held Nov. 15. Doors open at 5:45 p.m. Tickets are \$40 and are available at the art centre information desk and at the Framing and Art Centre.

## ATHLETICS

The women's volleyball Gryphons are at home to Brock Oct. 22 at 7:30 p.m. The men's team hosts McMaster Oct. 25 at 2 p.m. Waterloo visits Guelph Nov. 1, with the women's teams playing at 1 p.m. and the men's at 3 p.m.

The women's basketball team takes on Western Oct. 29 at 7:30 p.m. The men's team is at home to Acadia Oct. 30 at 8 p.m., St. Francis Xavier Oct. 31 at 7 p.m. and New Brunswick Nov. 1 at 7 p.m.

The men's hockey team hosts Windsor Nov. 8 at 7:30 p.m. and Nov. 9 at 2 p.m. The women's team is at home to Laurier Nov. 2 at 2 p.m.

The U of G swim team hosts Laurentian Nov. 9 at 9 a.m.

## COLLOQUIUM

The rural studies colloquium series presents Prof. René Véron, Geography, discussing "Participatory Decentralization in Kerala, India: A Model for Sustainable Rural Communities?" Oct. 24 at 2 p.m. in Landscape Architecture 125.

## CONCERTS

The Thursday noon-hour concerts continue Oct. 23 with violinist Koh Gabriel Kameda and pianist Meg Masaki and Oct. 30 with pianist

Robert Bruce, percussionist Julia Cleveland and members of Toronto's Integrated Dance Artists' Collective. On Nov. 6, Mei Han and Randy Raine-Reusch perform new music for the Chinese zheng. The concerts begin at 12:10 p.m. in MacKinnon 107. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

As part of "Benjamin Britten: A Celebration," the College of Arts presents a concert focusing on Britten influences and their contemporaries Nov. 10 at 8 p.m. at the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre. On Nov. 20, the Aldeburgh Connection performs Britten's *The Heart of the Matter* at 8 p.m. in War Memorial Hall. For ticket information, call 763-3000.

## FILM

Next up in the College of Arts film and literature series is documentary filmmaker Janis Cole screening her film *P4W: Prison for Women* and discussing filmmaking Nov. 3 at 7 p.m. in MacKinnon 120.

## LECTURES

Paul Hemsworth, director of Australia's Animal Welfare Centre, presents "Does the Animal Caretaker Need to Care? The Importance of Human-Animal Interaction for the Welfare of Farm and Companion Animals" Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. in the OVC cafeteria.

John Gunn, senior research scientist with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, explores "Lake Char: An Icon for Ecosystem Sustainability" Oct. 30 at 5 p.m. in OVC 1714.

Gordon Laxer, director of the Parkland Institute at the University of Alberta, discusses "Not for Sale: Decommunifying Public Life and Nature" Oct. 30 at 7 p.m. in OVC 1714.

World-renowned primate biologist Jane Goodall speaks Nov. 5 at 9:30 a.m. in Peter Clark Hall. Tickets are \$17.50 for adults, \$14.50 for those under 16. To order tickets, call 1-888-88chimp.

As part of "Benjamin Britten: A Celebration," Linda and Michael Hutcheon discuss "Dionysian Death and Apollonian Art: Benjamin Britten's Last Work, *Death in Venice*" Nov. 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre.

## NOTICES

Applications for U of G's 2004 international field studies grant are now being accepted. The grant provides funds for up to five Canadian and international students to extend and complement their field of study with a global and cross-cultural experience. The program is open to undergraduates who have completed four full academic semesters and graduate students. Up to \$1,000 will be granted for travel and other costs

associated with field study outside Canada. The deadline for applications is Feb. 13. More information and an application form are available on the web at [www.uoguelph.ca/CIP/PDFS/ifsgrant.pdf](http://www.uoguelph.ca/CIP/PDFS/ifsgrant.pdf).

A master's student working with Prof. Scott Maitland in the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition wants to interview grandparents about their relationships with their grandchildren. This is part of the larger stepfamily project at U of G, so participants need to be the parent of a stepparent. Participation in the project will involve an interview of 1 to 1½ hours. Confidentiality is assured. For more information, call Tara Dwyer at 905-836-4471, send e-mail to [tdwyer@uoguelph.ca](mailto:tdwyer@uoguelph.ca) or leave a message at Ext. 56156.

The Stress Management and High Performance Clinic is offering a program on managing headaches, beginning Nov. 4 at 7:30 p.m. in UC 390. For more information, visit the Web site [www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers) or leave a message at Ext. 52662.

Lucy Reid of the Multi-Faith Resource Centre is holding a one-day retreat for meditation and relaxation Oct. 25 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Rockwood. Cost is \$10. Everyone is welcome. To register, contact Reid at Ext. 52390 or [lreid@uoguelph.ca](mailto:lreid@uoguelph.ca).

## READING

The School of Languages and Literatures hosts Québécois short-story writer Gilles Pellerin reading from a selection of his works Nov. 3 at 12:30 p.m. in UC 103. The reading will be in French. Everyone is welcome.

## SEMINARS

The Department of Microbiology presents Raúl Barletta of the University of Nebraska discussing "Molecular Genetic Analysis of *Mycobacterium paratuberculosis* Virulence Determinants" Oct. 23 at 3 p.m. in OVC 1714.

The Health and Performance Centre is offering a seminar on "Fat and Food Labels" Oct. 23 at 7 p.m. in Powell 207. Cost is \$10. To reserve a seat, call Ext. 53460.

Next up in the Department of Microbiology graduate student seminar series is Yonit Tsatskis explaining "Aerotaxis and Redox-taxis: Energy-Sensing Behaviour in Bacteria" Oct. 24 and Amanda van der Vinne considering "Prions: Protein Conformation and the Species Barrier" Oct. 31. The seminars begin at 12:30 p.m. in Axelrod 117.

"Dietary Ingestion of Cadmium: What Fraction is Bioavailable?" is the focus of Prof. Beverly Hale, Land Resource Science, in the Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences seminar series

Oct. 24. Post-doctoral researcher Rebecca Tunstall discusses "The Regulation of Lipid Oxidative Genes in Human Skeletal Muscle" Oct. 31, and Prof. Peter Purslow, Food Science, considers "The Meat Factor: Increasing Iron Intake From the Diet" Nov. 7. The seminars begin at 1 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 141.

The Department of Physics seminar series continues Oct. 28 with Henry van Driel of the University of Toronto exploring "Spins Free of Charge." Upcoming speakers include Robb Man of the University of Waterloo Nov. 4 and Prof. Bruno Tomberli Nov. 11. The seminars begin at 4 p.m. in MacNaughton 113.

On Oct. 30, the departments of Microbiology and Pathobiology present Richard Stokes of the University of British Columbia and the B.C. Children's Hospital at 3 p.m. in OVC 1434. His topic is "Does *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* Really Want to Be Inside a Macrophage? Studies on the Interaction of Mycobacteria With Macrophages."

"Three Wildlife Disease Problems in Western Canada" is the topic of Gary Wobeser of the University of Saskatchewan in the Department of Pathobiology seminar series Oct. 31 at 2 p.m. in OVC 1715.

Next up in the Department of Zoology seminar series is post-doctoral researcher Erica Leder discussing "Fishing for Genes: Candidate Genes for Fitness Traits in Salmonids" Oct. 31 at 3:30 p.m. in Axelrod 265A.

"Characterizations of Protein Factors Regulating the Initiation of DNA Replication in Budding Yeast" is the topic of Bernard Dunker of the University of Waterloo in the biochemistry seminar series Nov. 13 at noon in MacNaughton 222.

## TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services' training and development opportunities for faculty and instructional staff continue with "Critical Reflection Learning Community" Oct. 27, "Teaching More Students: The Stagecraft of Large-Class Teaching" Oct. 27, "Teaching More Students: Interactivity and Engagement Using WebCT" Oct. 30, "Creating a Teaching Video" Nov. 4, "WebCT: Hands-on for First-Time Users" Nov. 5 and "Maximizing Your Teaching Time #1: Your Course Website" Nov. 7. Details and online registration are available on the website [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca). If you have questions, call Ext. 53571 or 52963.

## THEATRE

U of G's drama program presents *Lola Starr Builds Her Dream Home*, written and directed by Prof. Sky Gilbert, for six performances Nov. 4 to 8 at the George Luscombe Thea-

tre. Performances run at 8 p.m. Tuesday to Friday and 2 and 8 p.m. on Saturday. Tickets are \$7 and \$9 and will be sold at the door.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Guelph Chamber of Commerce is hosting a series of debates for City Council candidates. Mayor candidates meet Nov. 5 at 7 p.m. at the Ramada Hotel and Convention Centre. This debate will not be televised. Ward debates, which began Oct. 21, continue Oct. 22 for Ward 2, Oct. 23 for Ward 3, Oct. 28 for Ward 4, Oct. 29 for Ward 5 and Oct. 30 for Ward 6. They begin at 7 p.m. in City Hall council chambers and are being televised live on Rogers TV.

The next meeting of the Wellington County branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society is Oct. 28 at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church, 122 Harris St. Guest speaker Kathy Orr will give a presentation on basic genealogy.

The Guelph Guild of Handweavers and Spinners presents "Fall Fibres 2003," a sale of weaving and spinning, Nov. 8 and 9 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Wellington County Museum and Archives.

The next meeting of the Canadian Federation of University Women is Oct. 28 at 7:30 p.m. at Harpo's Banquet Hall, 89 Dawson Rd. Guest speaker is Brian Macdonald, a choreographer, director and original member of the National Ballet of Canada. This meeting is open to non-members.

St. George's Church is sponsoring a series of leadership development workshops. Coming up next month are "Time Management for Busy People" Nov. 8 and "Promises, Promises!" Nov. 22. For registration information, call 822-1366 or send e-mail to [office@saintgeorge.ca](mailto:office@saintgeorge.ca).

Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis is offering a workshop on "Self-Esteem and Friendship" Oct. 29 from 1 to 4 p.m. at 18 Norwich St. E. To register, call 823-5806, Ext. 33.

The Elora Festival Singers, conducted by Noel Edison, will hold a soup concert Nov. 2 at St. John's Church in Elora. Lunch begins at 1:30 p.m., followed by a talk and a 3 p.m. concert featuring works by Mendelssohn. For ticket information, call 846-0331.

The Guelph Civic Museum presents the exhibition "A Star Is Born," highlighting the life of Guelph-born opera star Edward Johnson.

The Cambridge chapter of the Council of Canadians hosts Mel Hurtig, council founder and best-selling author, Oct. 30 at 7 p.m. at the Newfoundland Club in Cambridge (Dunbar Road beside Cambridge Centre). For more information, call 621-9908.

# @GUELPH

NOVEMBER 5, 2003  
VOLUME 47, No. 17

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Prof. Valerie Davidson will hold the NSERC/HP (Canada) chair for five years.  
PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

## Chair Awarded

*Goal is to increase participation of women and girls*

**E**NGINEERING professor Valerie Davidson has been awarded a prestigious chair from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) designed to increase participation of women and girls in science and engineering and to provide role models for women considering careers in these fields.

Davidson will hold the NSERC/HP (Canada) Chair for Women in Science and Engineering (CWSE) for five years. She is the first U of G professor to hold the chair, which is supported by a \$70,000 annual allocation from NSERC. The

funding is being matched by HP and supplemented by U of G.

The appointment was announced by NSERC president Tom Brzustowski Nov. 4 in Guelph.

"This is a day of considerable pride for the University of Guelph," president Alastair Summerlee said at the event. "Dr. Davidson's appointment will elevate the University's reputation for strength in science and engineering and contribute to the future of innovation in this country as the next generation of outstanding researchers look to her

*Continued on page 8*

## CRCs Mark Milestones

**U**OF G'S COHORT of distinguished Canada Research Chairs (CRCs) now numbers an even 20 with the announcement of two new appointments by Industry Minister Allan Rock Oct. 23.

Biochemistry professor Frances Sharom and food science professor Rickey Yada were both named Tier 1 Canada Research Chairs during a "milestone event" at the University of Toronto. Tier 1 chairs are acknowledged as international leaders in their fields and are awarded \$200,000 a year for seven years.

"Today, more than 1,000 chairs in universities across Canada are helping make the quality of life of Canadians better every day," said Rock, who announced 118 new chair holders. "Thanks to the research of all the chairs, Canada is closer than ever to its goal of becoming one of the top five countries in the world for research and development performance."

Sharom will hold the Canada Research Chair in Membrane Protein Biology (see story on page 5).

*Continued on page 14*

## University Is Tops in Research

*Report names U of G the Canadian comprehensive 'Research University of the Year'*

**G**UELPH WAS NAMED the Canadian comprehensive "Research University of the Year" Nov. 4 in a report by Research Infosource Inc. published in the *National Post*. U of G also received top honours in its division for overall research-intensiveness.

The report named one "Research University of the Year" in each of three categories: medical, comprehensive and undergraduate. Win-

ners of this new ranking were determined on the basis of criteria that included total financial input and research output.

"This was done to obtain a more balanced picture of how universities are performing," said Ron Freedman, CEO of Research Infosource Inc., a division of The Impact Group, a consulting firm that provides information about the research activities of Canadian companies,

universities and governments.

The report also ranked Canada's top 50 research universities for research intensity, sponsored research income and number of full-time faculty. U of G was first among comprehensive universities (those with a significant amount of research activity and a wide range of programs at the graduate and undergraduate

*Continued on page 11*

## New Network of Centres of Excellence Based at U of G

*OAC prof to head the only network in Canada focusing on food*

**T**HE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH will be the host institution for a new federally funded Network of Centres of Excellence (NCE) that will bring together researchers from across campus — and across the country — to study scientific, social and health aspects of food and soft materials.

"This is the first Network of Centres of Excellence based at Guelph and the only one in Canada focusing on food," says Prof. Rickey Yada, Food Science, scientific director of the newly christened NCE in Advanced Foods and Materials. Yada has also just been appointed to a Canada Research Chair (CRC) in Food Protein Structure.

The new NCE was announced at Guelph Nov. 4 by Tom Brzustowski, president of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) and chair of the NCE steering committee, and Guelph-Wellington MP Brenda Chamberlain.

The network will receive a total of \$22.3 million over an initial five-year period from all three federal granting agencies — NSERC, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research — as well as Industry Canada.

"The NCE program is probably the epitome of research funding in Canada," says Yada, who joined the University in 1984. "This says you've put all of the right cards in place."

President Alastair Summerlee says the establishment of the network "is both an incredible achievement and an outstanding opportunity for Guelph. It's an honour to be selected to host the centre and to play a role in training the future

leaders of innovation. The network will play a vital role in enhancing public health and well-being."

Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research), adds that the ultimate goal of the centre is "to ensure a pre-eminent role for Canada in advanced foods and biomaterials research worldwide. The network will bring the very best of Canadian scientific capacity together to do the research that will lead to new discov-

eries and new socially acceptable value-added products and processes."

Wildeman notes that Yada brings strong research and leadership experience to the network.

A former chair of the Department of Food Science and former assistant vice-president (research), agri-food programs, Yada studies the structure and function of food-

*Continued on page 14*



Prof. Rickey Yada, Food Science, has been named scientific director of the first Network of Centres of Excellence to be based at Guelph.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

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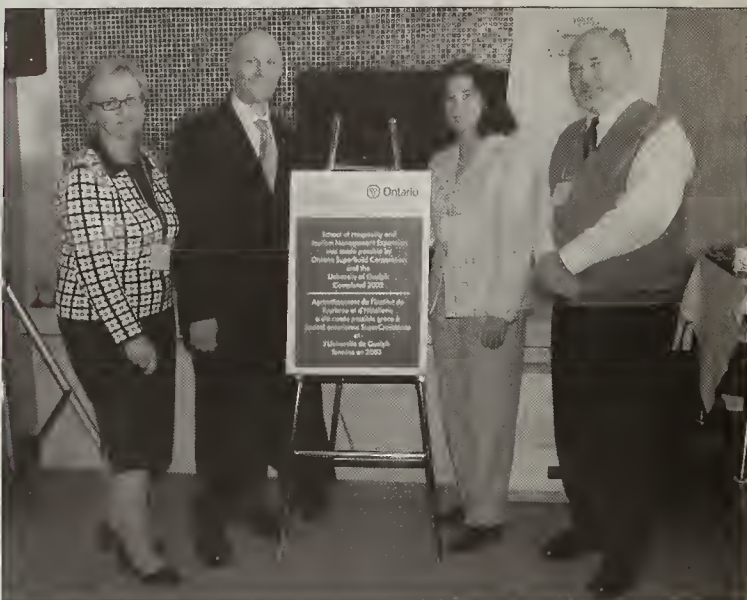
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# Expanded Teaching Kitchen, Restaurant Officially Open

State-of-the-art facility brings to life U of G's philosophy of learning by doing



Unveiling a plaque at the official opening of the expanded teaching kitchen and restaurant in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management are, from left, Prof. Marion Joppe, director of the school; president Alastair Summerlee; Roda McInnes-Contractor, external relations director for the provincial SuperBuild program; and Prof. John Walsh, acting dean of the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences.

PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

**U**OF G OPENED its newly expanded teaching kitchen and restaurant in grand fashion Oct. 24 with an event featuring elaborate food and wine creations of Mark Picone, the executive chef at Vineland Estates Winery and a 1986 graduate of Guelph's hotel and food administration program.

"This is both a festive and educationally significant occasion for the University of Guelph," president Alastair Summerlee said during the grand-opening celebration at the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM). The event was attended by U of G faculty, staff and students, alumni, government officials, project donors and industry representatives.

"This state-of-the-art facility brings to life the University's philosophy of learning by doing, and we are grateful to the provincial government and our industry partners for their support in helping us advance experiential education," Summerlee said. "The expansion has enabled us to increase our offerings and provide students with a first-class hands-on environment in which to acquire the management and training skills required of the next generation of hospitality and tourism leaders, while meeting the industry demand for

more and better-qualified people."

The \$3.5-million expansion project includes a multi-purpose atrium for use as a dining room, lecture space, working laboratory and special-event facility, and doubles the teaching restaurant's food-production space. It provides additional facilities for more than 230 new students and allows HTM to incorporate new food-preparation technologies and update its information systems for reservations, table management, ordering and production.

The expansion was funded by the Ontario government's SuperBuild program and donations to the University's fundraising campaign, including support from McDonald's Canada, Cara Operations Ltd. and Fairmont Hotels and Resorts.

"The new facilities, together with the school's broadened mandate from hotel and food administration to hospitality and tourism management, are setting the stage for the school to become internationally recognized as Canada's premier teaching and research institution in this field," said HTM director Marion Joppe. "Food-service management and research as areas of expertise have an exciting future and growth potential in this country,

which these facilities will allow us to take full advantage of."

The kitchen and restaurant allow third-year students to apply their multidisciplinary study of hospitality management in planning, purchasing, storage, production, marketing and service. It serves lunch several days a week to the on- and off-campus communities and doubles as a fine-dining restaurant on selected evenings. In addition, the new facility will serve as a living lab for research in nutrition education and menu-item development in food service.

In addition to the grand opening, HTM held its annual executive-in-residence program in October. Kristy Adams, president and chief operating officer of Howard Johnson Franchise Canada Inc., met with students, faculty and staff, gave a public lecture and was the keynote speaker at the annual executive-in-residence dinner Oct. 22. Adams graduated from Guelph with a B.Comm. in hotel and food administration in 1990. Immediately after graduation, she became sales manager for Howard Johnson Hotel in Ottawa and was named president and chief operating officer in 2002.

BY LORI BONA HUNT

|                |                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                            |
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## OPEN LEARNING COURSES RECEIVE HIGH MARKS

U of G has captured a first-place Teaching With Technology Award from the Council of Ontario Universities Office for Partnerships for Advanced Skills. Guelph won in the workplace application category for the open learning course "Principles of Relationship Selling," written and taught by Prof. Tom Funk, Agricultural Economics and Business. The University also received an honourable mention in the university course category for "Introduction to Musicianship," a course written and taught by Jennifer Knelman of the School of Fine Art and Music. The awards are sponsored by the CGI Group Inc. and IBM Canada.

## NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR STAFF SEAT ON SENATE

Senate is calling for nominations to fill one of the two staff seats on Senate. A staff member has resigned a seat, creating a vacancy. Any full-time non-teaching staff member is eligible to stand as a candidate for the vacant seat or to nominate another candidate. The term of the seat is Sept. 1, 2003, to Aug. 31, 2006. Nominations must be received by Nov. 21 at 4:30 p.m. in the Senate Office on Level 4 of the University Centre. The office will conduct an election by mail ballot to select the candidate. For nomination forms, call Ext. 56760.

## A FAIR TO REMEMBER

The University's 29th annual Fair November, an exhibition and sale of fine Canadian crafts by more than 80 artisans, runs Nov. 20 to 23 in the University Centre. Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

## KEMPTVILLE HOSTS DAIRY CATTLE SHOW

One of the premier dairy cattle shows in Canada was again held at Kemptville College last month. The Eastern Ontario-Western Quebec Holstein Show has drawn more than 200 cattle each year from the top herds in the region since it moved to Kemptville from the Ottawa Winter Fair in 1979. The show offers exhibitors, other breeders and industry members an opportunity to see the best examples of the breed.

## WEBSITE EARNS KUDOS

The Learning Commons website has tied for third place for this year's Educational Website of the Year Award from the North American Web Developers Association.

## FALL PREVIEW DAY DRAWS STUDENTS, PARENTS

Fall Preview Day, U of G's largest on-campus recruitment event, drew more than 2,000 high school students and parents to campus Nov. 2. The day included campus tours, information sessions and displays staffed by U of G faculty, staff and students.

# UGFA Awards Honour Six

Faculty Association celebrates good teaching across campus

THE U OF G Faculty Association (UGFA) presented six Distinguished Professor Awards at a ceremony Oct. 23.

"The annual reception in honour of new faculty and UGFA teaching award winners is an important opportunity to celebrate good teaching and signal to new faculty that both the UGFA and the University are anxious to recognize and support good teaching," says UGFA president Prof. Art Hill, Food Science. "I salute the 2003 teaching award winners and encourage UGFA members to nominate the outstanding teachers among their colleagues for the 2004 awards."

The teaching awards were established in 1984 to recognize people who make a difference both to their profession and in the lives of their students by ensuring the best instruction and research. The awards are based on student evaluations, letters of support from students and colleagues, and the recipients' contributions to curriculum development.

Prof. Wayne Caldwell, Environmental Design and Rural Development, received the award for the Ontario Agricultural College. He was cited for his concern and care for others, his integrity and his professional accomplishments.

"He has the natural ability to put a room instantly at ease and has the ability to make the most convoluted issues sound simple," wrote one student.

Caldwell describes teaching at the university level as "a privilege . . . I approach my teaching responsibilities with humour, humility, flexibility and respect for students. In the classroom, I attempt to establish an environment that facilitates active participation and learning."

Over at OVC, the award went to Prof. Stephen Kruth, Clinical Studies, for his patience, commitment to students and his ability to both mentor and empower others.

One student wrote: "He can always be looked to for guidance and encouragement, which is most valuable in such a demanding and difficult program. He has a gift for recognizing the personal strengths and capabilities of his students, and works to develop these strengths to such a level that personal weaknesses no longer appear as impossible ob-



Winners of this year's UGFA teaching awards are, from left, Profs. Michael Wirth, Herb Kunze, Coral Murrant, Wayne Caldwell, Stephen Kruth and Elizabeth Ewan.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

stacles to overcome."

Prof. Herb Kunze, Mathematics and Statistics, was one of two winners from the College of Physical and Engineering Science. Kunze, who has been listed as one of 10 "Popular Profs" at Guelph in the *Maclean's Guide to Canadian Universities* for the last four years, was lauded for his dynamic classroom style. One nominator said he is "a wizard at teaching with all the tools, from chalk and talk to online demo-magic. His assignments, homework and sample tests are challenging yet fair. His mid-terms and finals are fair and even fun."

Prof. Michael Wirth, Computing and Information Science (CIS), is the second winner from CPES. His nominator, Prof. Stefan Kremer, CIS, wrote that Wirth has comprehensively redesigned his courses from the ground up and emphasizes active learning and the application of knowledge rather than the recall of factual information. Wirth's colleagues use his papers on various teaching-related subjects to guide their own teaching and course devel-

opment, Kremer says.

Prof. Coral Murrant, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences, won the teaching award for the College of Biological Science. Words used to describe her by nominators include "approachable," "caring," "funny," "dedicated" and "patient," with "radiant enthusiasm for physiology."

One of Murrant's students wrote that she is a professor who not only "loves her chosen profession but, most importantly, loves to share her knowledge with her students in an articulate and understanding way, realizing that not all of her students will find the information easy to digest. . . . She is what a university professor should be."

For the College of Arts, the award went to Prof. Elizabeth Ewan, History. The many glowing student comments on her behalf included the following: "If I could choose a value higher than A, I would. Prof. Ewan is a *fabulous teacher*." Another student wrote: "Prof. Ewan is golden. I am so glad I took this course with her."

BY STACEY CURRY GUNN

## U of G, NSERC Celebrate 25 Years

GUELPH THREW a 25th-anniversary party for the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Nov. 4, with invited guests including NSERC president Tom Brzustowski and members of the 600 U of G research teams that have received nearly \$300 million in support over the years.

"U of G — and the world of research — is a greatly different place than it was 25 years ago," said Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research). "There has been a tremendous amount of change across the

entire spectrum of research as we have evolved and matured into the university we are today. Support from NSERC over the past 2½ decades has been a key factor in driving that change and in enabling the research and innovation of our community to give the University the reputation it has."

Since its inception in 1978, NSERC has supported the research projects of some 9,600 university professors every year, as well as more than 17,700 university students and post-doctoral researchers. It also en-

courages more than 500 Canadian companies to invest in university research annually.

"NSERC supports a wide spectrum of research activities, from the first germ of an idea to commercialization," said Prof. Peter Pauls, Plant Agriculture, U of G's NSERC representative. "NSERC grants are highly valued by science and engineering researchers because they represent strong endorsements of research ideas and expertise from Canadian and international research communities."

## PEOPLE

### MUSIC PROF GIVES PAPER

Prof. Howard Spring, Fine Art and Music, presented a paper at the annual Society for Ethnomusicology conference in Miami. His topic was "Race, Swing and Social Dance: It Don't Mean a Thing if It Ain't Got That Swing." He also participated in the formation of the society's new dance section.

### RETIREMENT RECEPTION SET

A reception will be held Nov. 26 for Garry Round, executive director of Hospitality Services, who is retiring after 33 years at U of G. It runs from 4 to 6:30 p.m. in Peter Clark Hall. A contribution of \$10 per person is requested. For tickets, contact Maureen Collins at Ext. 52811 or mcollins@hrs.uoguelph.ca by Nov. 21.

### ARTIST ADDRESSES

#### TORONTO CONFERENCE

Prof. Susan Douglas, Fine Art and Music, gave a presentation on "Esthetic Responses to Globalization" at the conference "The New World Order: Book-Launch Conference and Art Exhibition" at the University of Toronto last month. The conference was organized by Prof. Gordana Yovanovich, Languages and Literatures.

### SOFAM DIRECTOR SPEAKS

Prof. John Kissick, director of the School of Fine Art and Music, presented the paper "Perspectives on Managing Interdisciplinarity" at the National Association of Schools of Art and Design Annual Conference in Los Angeles in October.

## Lest We Forget

U OF G WILL HOLO its annual Remembrance Day Service Nov. 11 from 10:45 to 11:20 a.m. in War Memorial Hall.

Prof. Terry Crowley, chair of the Department of History, will speak at the service, which will also include music by the U of G Women's Choir led by Marta McCarthy, a wreath ceremony and a reading and prayer by Rev. Canon Lucy Reid. Undergraduate student Andrew Baker, a 2002 President's Scholar, will perform on trumpet.

The traditional silver rose bowl filled with red roses will sit at the front of the hall during the service. It was donated by Guelph graduate Kathleen Dowler Riter in honour of a friend and faculty member, RAF Captain John Playford Hales, who was killed in France in 1918. The Hales family will be represented by Maurice Smith.

In addition to an open invitation to the University community to attend this year's service, president Alastair Summerlee has invited about 100 U of G alumni in the Guelph area who are war veterans.

Although classes won't be cancelled for the service, the president requests that faculty grant consideration to students who miss some class time to attend the service. Supervisors are encouraged to allow employees sufficient time to participate as well.

**Editor's note:** This is part of an ongoing series designed to introduce new faculty to the University community.

## HWAN-SUK (CHRIS) CHOI

Assistant professor, School of Hospitality and Tourism Management

**Background:** BA, Greek philosophy, Chung-Ang University, Korea; master of tourism administration, George Washington University; PhD, Texas A&M University

**Teaching objectives:** One of the special features I plan to introduce in my teaching is case study-based learning. Cases contain various situations and pressures that tourism and hospitality managers may face in making decisions in a real-world situation. Accordingly, case-based learning will motivate students to apply concepts and information they've learned and give them opportunities to manage real-world problems in a classroom setting.

**Research objectives:** The overall objective of my research is to enhance and contribute to tourism development and marketing research by developing a better monitoring system for managing tourism impact on destination communities within a sustainability paradigm and to develop user-friendly tool kits by testing current methods and developing new ones.

cattle and how this response can be modulated to reduce severity of disease. To study influenza virus prevalence in performance horses.

## EDWARD MCBEAN

Professor, School of Engineering, Canada Research Chair in Water Supply Security

developing procedures for characterizing the vulnerability of water supplies, prioritizing initiatives to improve the safety and sustainability of water supplies and developing detection mechanisms that will indicate when the safety of a water supply system is in jeopardy. I will address such issues as environmental factors, sabotage, water terrorism,

mental impact assessment issues in class and on site.

**Research objectives:** My research group (floristic diversity research group) investigates patterns of diversity and impacts of anthropogenic disturbances. We are one of only two active bryology labs in Canada.

**Research objectives:** I am completing a book on Spanish-American independence leaders who lived in London in the early 19th century, and am beginning another major project on patriotic culture during the independence era.

## JANIS RANDALL SIMPSON

Assistant professor, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition

**Background:** B.Sc., University of Toronto; PhD, University of Guelph

**Teaching objectives:** My teaching philosophy is to help students learn according to the aims and objectives of the University of Guelph. As part of this philosophy, I believe that learning can be facilitated by allowing students to learn by doing — by doing assignments, papers and laboratory reports and by participating in group activities and class discussions.

**Research objectives:** My research philosophy is to conduct relevant and ethical research that will contribute to the understanding of the relationship of nutrition to the growth and development of infants and children. Specifically, I am conducting applied research with an emphasis on assessment of growth (directly and by screening), dietary intakes and trace element status.

## ALAN WILLMS

Assistant professor, Department of Mathematics and Statistics

**Background:** B.Math and M.Math, University of Waterloo; PhD, Cornell University

**Teaching objectives:** I hope to motivate students to appreciate mathematics both for its application to many diverse areas and for its own intrinsic beauty.

**Research objectives:** I apply mathematics to a wide range of biological problems, such as helping determine ion channel gating mechanics with neuroscientists and modelling population dynamics with fishery biologists.



Hwan-Suk (Chris) Choi



Joanne Hewson



Edward McBean



Steven Newmaster



Janis Randall Simpson



Alan Willms

## JOANNE HEWSON

Assistant professor, Department of Clinical Studies

**Background:** DVM, University of Guelph; Diplomate ACVIM (American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine); PhD candidate, OVC

**Teaching objectives:** I am teaching clinical medicine to undergraduates in the DVM program. This includes structured courses as well as hands-on exposure to clinical cases presented to the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. My specialization is respiratory medicine.

**Research objectives:** To investigate the immune response of the lung to bacterial infections in horses and

**Background:** B.A.Sc., University of British Columbia; SM, CE and PhD, MIT

**Teaching objectives:** Having worked for the last nine years in professional practice, I will be bringing elements of design and operating principles associated with engineering projects, both nationally and internationally, to the classroom.

**Research objectives:** My research is focused on improving our understanding and detection capabilities for potential failures of water supply systems, as a means of identifying the vulnerabilities. This will include

threats and vandalism, and data falsification.

## STEVEN NEWMASTER

Assistant professor and curator of the Herbarium, Department of Botany

**Background:** B.Sc., University of Guelph; PhD (ecology and taxonomy), University of Alberta.

**Teaching objectives:** Student-centred educational experiences in the field or working with real projects, e.g., floating in a wetland while interpreting plants, communities and environmental variables. Problem-solving current environ-

## KAREN RACINE

(PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE)

Associate professor, Department of History

**Background:** BA, University of Saskatchewan; MA and PhD, Tulane University

**Teaching objectives:** I teach Latin American and global history and have plans to introduce a new course on film and Latin American history. In the future, we may be able to devise ways that certain students may opt for well-researched multimedia projects instead of traditional prose papers.

# University Hosts Britten Festival Events

Campus lectures, concerts honour the life's work of renowned 20th-century composer

SEVERAL LECTURES and concerts being staged as part of a festival celebrating the life and work of 20th-century composer Benjamin Britten will be hosted by the University of Guelph this month.

"Benjamin Britten: A Celebration," which runs Nov. 5 to 30 in Goderich, Guelph, Kitchener-Waterloo, London and Toronto, features a total of 17 performances of opera, oratorio and chamber music, as well as eight lectures and numerous films with music by Britten.

Here at U of G, the College of Arts is hosting three free public lectures at the Macdonald Stewart Art

Centre. On Nov. 5 at 7:30 p.m., Linda Hutcheon of the University of Toronto and Michael Hutcheon of Toronto Hospital will speak on "Dionysian Death and Apollonian Art: Benjamin Britten's Last Work, *Death in Venice*." On Nov. 18 at 7 p.m., author and University of Toronto professor emeritus Carl Morey presents "Benjamin Britten: Icon of 20th-Century Music." On Nov. 24 at 8 p.m., Colin Graham, who is artistic director of the Opera Theatre of St. Louis and who worked with Britten and presented a number of his operas, will give a talk on "Staging Britten's Operas."

The University is also presenting four concerts, including one Nov. 10 at 8 p.m. at the art centre. Focusing on "Britten Influences and Their Contemporaries," the performance will feature tenor Glyn Evans, mezzo-soprano Patricia Harton-McCord and pianist Betty Maher. Tickets are \$20 general, \$15 for seniors and students.

On Nov. 20, the Aldeburgh Connection performs *The Heart of the Matter* at 8 p.m. in War Memorial Hall. Tickets are \$25 and \$5. War Mem will also be the site of a Nov. 27 concert featuring selected chamber music by Britten. Starting at 8 p.m.,

the performance features violinists Scott St. John and Erika Raum, violist Steven Dann and cellists Shauna Rolston and Jamie Parker. Tickets are \$25 and \$5.

The U of G Choir takes centre stage at the River Run Centre Nov. 28 at 8 p.m., performing works by Britten, Buxtehude and Saint-Saens. Tickets are \$16 and \$8.

The Britten festival will conclude with a grand finale performance of *The Prodigal Son* Nov. 30 at 4 p.m. at the River Run Centre. The one-act chamber opera, presented in association with the Edward Johnson Music Foundation, had its North

American premiere at the 1969 Guelph Spring Festival.

Following the performance, guests will be invited to take part in "A Joyful Feast," a fundraiser that will celebrate the 125th anniversary of Edward Johnson and the 95th birthday of Nicholas Goldschmidt, artistic director of the Britten Festival and former artistic director of the Guelph Spring Festival. Tickets are \$35/\$30 and \$33/\$28.

For tickets or more information, call the River Run Centre box office at 763-3000 or visit the website [www.brittencelebration.com](http://www.brittencelebration.com) or [www.riverrun.guelph.on.ca](http://www.riverrun.guelph.on.ca).

# Biochemist Lands CRC to Study Membrane Proteins

*Making an impact against cancer and other diseases is part of what drives scientist's research*

**S**TUDYING CANCER and other diseases under a new Canada Research Chair (CRC) brings research home in more ways than one for Prof. Frances Sharom, Chemistry and Biochemistry.

She had to alter her wedding plans this summer after her fiancé, John Chapman, was diagnosed with renal cell carcinoma and had to have a kidney removed. That was hardly her first encounter with the disease. Her first husband died of cancer, as did John's first wife.

"I've had many, many brushes with cancer," says Sharom. "It gives it a more real feeling. This isn't some distant disease; it has a real impact."

Making an impact of her own against cancer and other diseases is part of what drives her research at Guelph. She says her new CRC in Membrane Protein Biology will help her take a busy lab program to "the next level," particularly in studies of membrane proteins involved in human health applications from chemotherapy to a rare neurodegenerative disorder in children to bacterial and viral infections.

Sharom studies a handful of the tens of thousands of proteins found in cell membranes from bacteria to humans alike. Far from serving as passive dividers, membranes are active biological structures whose proteins and lipids perform many vital functions.

Since the late 1980s, she has been studying the P-glycoprotein multi-drug transporter. This membrane protein "pump" normally expels toxic or harmful substances from cells, particularly in the gut, kidney and brain. So zealously does the pump work that it also kicks out che-



Newly named Canada Research Chair Prof. Frances Sharom studies a handful of the tens of thousands of proteins found in cell membranes.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

motherapy drugs intended to fight tumours in those particular tissues. That leaves doctors no choice but to remove the tumour surgically.

An estimated 18,000 Canadians will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer alone in 2003, and 8,300 will die from the disease, according to

the Canadian Cancer Society.

Sharom and her research group have studied the pump's activity in experiments in her MacNaughton Building lab. She wants to figure out how this protein works and how to counter its effects. "The idea is to try and develop additional drugs to give

to people that would block the activity of P-glycoprotein."

That information is important to pharmaceutical companies looking to ensure delivery of drugs intended to battle not just cancer but numerous diseases. "I'm trying to develop fluorescence methods to help them identify drugs that interact with P-glycoprotein."

Those firms also wish to avoid spending millions of dollars on testing, only to find that their expensive drugs are being flushed out of the target cells. Given a handful of compounds, she says: "I can tell which ones are going to be a problem."

In another project that began this year, Sharom is studying a membrane protein whose defective form causes a rare but devastating neurodegenerative illness in children called Niemann-Pick Type C disease.

The NPC1 protein moves cholesterol around inside cells. But in people with the defective gene, cholesterol accumulates to dangerous levels in several organs, especially the brain. Nervous system damage begins in early childhood, and death usually occurs in teens or early adulthood. There is currently no treatment.

Her lab is one of about 20 research groups worldwide now funded by the Ara Parseghian Medical Research Foundation, named for Notre Dame football coach Ara Parseghian. Niemann-Pick has already claimed two of his four grandchildren; a third was diagnosed a few years ago. "This family has watched their children die," says Sharom.

Ryan Graver, director of research development for the Ara Parseghian Medical Research Foundation in

Tucson, Ariz., calls Sharom "a bright and caring individual. She is extremely professional, and our scientific advisory board felt she was a scientist of the highest merit."

Under a grant from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, she also studies "lipid rafts" believed to be involved in infection by bacteria and viruses, including HIV/AIDS. "These viruses target and home in on these rafts," which she describes as groups of lipids clustered together in membranes that appear to help transmit and amplify signals into cells. Lipid rafts have become a hot research topic since their discovery about five years ago.

Since her initial paper on P-glycoprotein in 1993, Sharom has experimented with biophysical tools and techniques to look more closely at this and other membrane proteins.

"Our special expertise is in membrane protein reconstitution and fluorescence spectroscopy," she says. "I'm hoping our lab will act as a focus for people working in membrane protein biology who want to apply biophysical techniques like fluorescence spectroscopy to them."

What might be some specific long-term results or benefits of her work? "That's hard to predict," she says. "Science doesn't work like that."

Still, she says her own encounters with the tragic consequences of disease bring home the importance of contributing to knowledge that might help save lives, even in unforeseen ways.

"New things come up all the time. Science goes and we follow."

BY ANDREW VOWLES

## Syngenta Funds Research on Nitrogen Genetics

*Study aims to help reduce farmer costs and protect the environment*

**P**ROF. STEVEN ROTHSTEIN, Molecular Biology and Genetics, will receive about \$600,000 over the next three years from a global agribusiness company to study the genetics of nitrogen use in crop plants.

Learning more about how plants — especially corn and rice — use nitrogen is key to helping farmers apply the nutrient more efficiently in fertilizing crops. Not only is nitrogen a major component in fertilizers, but it's also a potential environmental contaminant, says Rothstein, a University senior research chair.

This summer, he was awarded \$189,000 US a year for three years (plus in-kind support) from Syngenta Biotechnology Inc. in North Carolina. The company, part of Switzerland-based Syngenta Corp., makes crop-protection products and commercial seed for farmers worldwide. (Although a Canadian office of Syngenta Crop Protection is located in the U of G Research Park, Rothstein works with scientists in Research Triangle Park, N.C.)

Nitrogen fertilizer ranks among the biggest input costs for farmers. Besides helping to reduce those costs by making nitrogen use more efficient, he hopes to help farmers alleviate fouling of drinking-water supplies and freshwater and marine habitats.

"Anything we can do that can allow them to use less nitrogen is obviously a positive thing," he says.

It's no easy task. Rothstein says nitrogen metabolism involves genetic and molecular pathways governed by many genes, including the genes that regulate the amount of proteins produced for anything from root system uptake of nutrients to nutrient assimilation and use in the plant.

"We understand some structural genes in the pathways, but we don't know how to manipulate them or even what to look for in regard to improving efficiency in nitrogen use," he says. "It's likely a combination of many things."

Rothstein and his research team will study the genetics of nitrogen

metabolism in Arabidopsis or wild mustard, considered the "fruit fly" of the plant genetics world. Its DNA, consisting of about 30,000 genes, has been completely sequenced. He says Syngenta hopes to translate the results to studies of corn. "That's the field crop that uses a lot of nitrogen."

Using seed from Syngenta (and from the Salk Institute) that carries genetic mutations known to cause specific effects in the plants, he'll alter growing conditions to see those results, including perhaps smaller plants, lighter leaves or fewer seeds. Then he'll try to use that information to better understand how useful genetic changes can improve the efficiency of nitrogen use.

They've already had one surprising result with some plants that actually grow better using less nitrogen than other plants. Besides corn, he also plans to look at rice.

Knowing which genes are involved in nitrogen use would allow a breeder to improve selection tools for various traits or even to modify plants genetically. It would be up to

Syngenta to pursue any of the results from Rothstein's work.

The geneticist, who also has a grant from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, studied nutrient use when he arrived at Guelph initially in 1988. After 10 years here, he went to Pioneer Hi-Bred International as director of agronomic traits. He returned to Guelph last year to continue his studies of nutrients and plant development.

Ten years ago, says Rothstein, technological constraints made it

difficult to study the kind of complex genetic problem he and his team are tackling.

"Earlier, we lacked the tools to ask questions in a deep way. We only skimmed the surface. Now new tools make it feasible. There are huge opportunities with regard to getting access to technology and tools these days."

He notes, for example, that universities as well as private companies now have access to critical gene sequence data.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

### @GUELPH

#### PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

| Publication Date | Deadline | Publication Date | Deadline |
|------------------|----------|------------------|----------|
| Nov. 19          | Nov. 11  | Feb. 11          | Feb. 3   |
| Dec. 3           | Nov. 25  | Feb. 25          | Feb. 17  |
| Jan. 14          | Jan. 6   | March 10         | March 2  |
| Jan. 28          | Jan. 20  | March 24         | March 16 |

# BOARD OF GOVERNORS

**T**HE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH'S Board of Governors is responsible for overseeing the general policies and fiscal and administrative management of the University. The board consists of the chancellor, the president, seven members appointed by the board, three alumni appointed by the board, four lieutenant-governor order-in-council appointees, two staff members (one of whom is a graduate of the University) elected by U of G staff, three faculty members elected by Senate, and three students — two undergraduates and one graduate student — elected by students. The following is a complete listing of the 2003/2004 Board of Governors.

## LINCOLN ALEXANDER

Chancellor, University of Guelph  
*Appointment:* Chancellor  
Honorary Ambassador to the 2010 Commonwealth Games



Lincoln Alexander

## MICHAEL WALSH, CHAIR

Retired executive  
*Appointment:* Board/alumni  
Trustee, Samuel Rogers Memorial Trust  
U of G graduate: BA 1969, MA 1970, PhD 1992



Michael Walsh  
U of G Graduate



Rita Burak



Douglas Derry



Alastair Summerlee

Development Committee, Kingsway College School

## JEFF LOZON

President and CEO, St. Michael's Hospital  
*Appointment:* Board/alumni  
Assistant professor, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto  
U of G graduate: BA 1976



Josh Alcock  
U of G Student



Kathy Bardswick



Ted Bilyea



Susan Brown  
U of G Faculty



Carolyn Clark

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*Appointment:* Board  
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Mary-Elizabeth Flynn



Virginia Gray  
U of G Staff



Jonathan Guss



Stew Hills  
U of G Faculty



Andria Jones  
U of G Student

## ROBIN-LEE NORRIS

Partner, Miller Thomson LLP  
*Appointment:* Board/alumni  
Member, Steering Committee, Guelph Partnership for Innovation  
Past chair, Chamber of Commerce  
U of G graduate: BA 1980

## BILL TEESDALE

Information technology support, Department of Physics  
*Appointment:* Staff/alumni  
Financial secretary, USWA Local 4120  
U of G graduate: B.Sc. 1986



Gall Kilgour



Jeff Lozon  
U of G Graduate



Robin-Lee Norris  
U of G Graduate



Bill Teesdale  
U of G Graduate/Staff



Gabriel Tsampalieros

## GABRIEL TSAMPALIEROS

President and CEO, Cara Operations Limited  
*Appointment:* Board  
Director, Juvenile Diabetes Foundation of Canada

## ALASTAIR SUMMERLEE

President and vice-chancellor, University of Guelph  
*Appointment:* President  
Member, Council of Ontario Universities and COU Working Group on University Research  
Member, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and AUCC Standing Advisory Committee on International Relations



Glen Van Der Kraak  
U of G Faculty



Hank Vander Pol  
U of G Graduate



Luke Welter  
U of G Student



Ron Zelonka

## GLEN VAN DER KRAAK

Associate dean of research, CBS  
*Appointment:* Faculty  
Member, U of G Senate  
Chair, Integrative Animal Biology Committee, NSERC; leader, Reproductive Endocrine Ecotoxicology Program, Canadian Network of Toxicology Centres

## JOSH ALCOCK

Undergraduate student, BA, political science  
*Appointment:* Undergraduate student  
Member, U of G Senate

## KATHY BARDSWICK

President and CEO, The Co-operators Group Limited  
*Appointment:* Lieutenant-governor order-in-council  
Active in fundraising for Joseph Brant Hospital, Burlington  
Member, Board of Directors, Conference Board of Canada

## TED BILYEA

President, Maple Leaf Foods International  
*Appointment:* Board  
Co-chair, Canadian Agri-Food Marketing Council

## SUSAN BROWN

Associate professor, School of

English and Theatre Studies  
*Appointment:* Faculty  
Member, Parent Advisory Committee, Child-Care and Learning Centre

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*Appointment:* Lieutenant-governor order-in-council  
Member, Executive Committee of the Council of Human Resources, Conference Board of Canada

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CEO, F.N. Financial Corporation  
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Director, Office of Open Learning  
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Member, Board of Directors, Council of Ontario Universities Office for Partnerships for Advanced Skills

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Chair, Department of Land Resource Science

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External commissioner, Central Student Association

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Vice-president, Technology and Innovation, DuPont Canada Inc.  
*Appointment:* Board member, Materials and Manufacturing Ontario

# Music Technology Lab a Sound Investment

New facility will give students the necessary baseline skills that today's professional working musicians regularly use

**A**PICTURE MAY BE worth a thousand words, but pictures have limitations, too. Sound is what you need to appreciate the creative potential of U of G's new music technology lab.

It's by listening first-hand that you begin to understand the flexibility and scope of the technological tools that 10 students in the first-ever "Creating Music on the Computer" course are learning to use this semester.

A process called musical instrument digital interface (MIDI), using software program Cubase SX, enables course instructor Paul Lamoureux to put a futuristic-looking wind instrument to his lips and fill the room first with piano music, followed by guitar, harmonica and, finally, a string ensemble.

Their attention riveted, the students fire questions at him: "How does it work?" "What are we listening to?"

Lamoureux explains that he is using the "wind controller" to trigger sample bits of sound that are played back according to a set of computerized instructions. Various effects can also be added to "bend" the pitch of the sound or "modify it in other surprising ways."

Later, in an interview, Lamoureux says he brought in his wind controller, which he plays like a saxophone, to show the students that "regardless of which instrument you play, you can find a way to get your information into the computer."

Once that information is entered, MIDI enables students to "completely manipulate and change the nature of what plays back, including what kind of instrument plays," he says. "It can be very surgical. They can change the length of notes, transpose notes, make them go up, go down, get softer, get louder. You have all this flexibility, all this creativity, before you lock yourself into a final form, a final rendition. By the time we've touched on all the ways to get music into the computer, including audio sources, they'll have a real buffet for creating their music."

The students work on MusicXPC Professional 17-inch LCD flat screen computers, with a music keyboard in front of them. The Music XPC Professional is a personal computer that is optimized for music production and is used by professional studios, film composers, broadcasters, mastering houses and professional music schools.

It's similar to a Windows XP home edition, Lamoureux says, "except everything that helps music



Music instructor Paul Lamoureux demonstrates his "wind controller" in the new "Creating Music on the Computer" course.  
PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

production is enabled and everything that hinders it has been turned off. Only the software used in our music courses has been added."

The lab also enjoys technical support from Les Bateman, the man who designed the Music XPC Professional. It also benefits from technical support from Steinberg Canada, the Canadian office of the company that makes Cubase SX.

The small facility in the MacKinnon building, with its \$60,000 worth of equipment, is state-of-the-art, says Lamoureux.

Students in the first course are giving it thumbs up. "It's inspiring how technology and music combine to make such a good thing," says third-year music major François Mouillot, who plays the guitar. "I'm a musician, and I was wanting to have a hands-on appreciation for what music holds in the future. I'm interested in producing and sound engineering, and this is top-of-the-line stuff. It's definitely my most fun class this semester."

It opens to the students a world of "powerful digital audio applications that are so influential in today's music," says Prof. Ellen Waterman, School of Fine Art and Music (SOFAM), who drafted the proposal for the lab.

Waterman, who previously

helped set up a similar, but smaller, lab when she worked at Trent University, says such skills are essential.

"We're really giving students necessary baseline skills that today's professional working musicians regularly use. This is a truly excellent facility for undergraduate students."

Such knowledge will benefit students working creatively in musical production who are interested in recording and disseminating their work, as well as those going on to teach music. Many high schools have music labs with multi-track digital recording and editing software, Waterman says.

The focus on contemporary music in Guelph's music program, plus the fact that high school students are learning computer music, prompted Prof. Howard Spring, SOFAM, to first suggest building the lab.

"We wanted it because, at this point in the history of music education, music students more and more need to know their way around computers and music software as an essential part of a well-rounded and thorough music education, which we offer at Guelph."

He credits Waterman for "a tremendous effort in pulling the lab together and really making it happen. Without her, the lab would not have seen the light of day."

The music technology lab is not the first instance of Guelph's music program using computers for teaching purposes, but it is a major step forward from the equipment that Prof. Mary Woodside's students were using last year in their musicianship skills courses. That equipment needed repair, and the faculty saw "all kinds of potential to do something really exciting," says Waterman.

A total of 60 students in two courses taught by Woodside and two sessional instructors are now using the lab's interactive software programs for melody and harmony skills. These programs "give instant feedback to students practising essential music skills in complete privacy," says Woodside. In addition, a music writing software program called Finale serves both musicianship and music theory students, allowing them to produce music scores in publication-quality format.

Faculty members are busy dreaming up other possible uses.

"The major opportunity now is to maximize use of the lab," says Waterman. "The student demand for more courses is huge. There are so many possibilities for new courses — it's really exciting."

The lab holds potential for all musical interests, she says. "Digital

music makes no distinction between writing popular versus classical music; it enables a diversity of interests and also opportunities for interaction between visual arts and music, such as combining music and video."

College of Arts dean Jacqueline Murray says the lab "will be important for enhancing our music offerings and attracting new students to Guelph. We already have a strong traditional program in music theory, history and performance, as well as ethnomusicology, jazz and popular culture. This lab will complement our pre-existing strengths and allow students to work with digital composition and analysis — the way of the future."

The lab is also designed for research applications, says Waterman. Faculty will be able to use it to prepare scores, sound files and presentations for lectures and conferences.

Course instructor Lamoureux brings a wealth of musical and technical expertise to U of G. A saxophonist and woodwind artist, he teaches Cubase SX and other popular music courses at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. Based in Toronto, he also works as a composer, producer, bandleader and studio musician.

Spring first met Lamoureux through the Royal Conservatory and called him for advice when the idea for the music technology lab was forming.

"Paul is first and foremost a musician, and a working one at that, as a composer, arranger and player," says Spring. "He's not a tech person who knows something about music; he's a fine musician who knows a lot about music and technology at a professional level. This makes all the difference because students will get training that is in line with musical values, goals, techniques and procedures. He'll make sure that the technology serves the music and not the other way around."

Lamoureux describes himself as "a kid in a candy store" in the new lab.

"I walked into an amazing situation. Now I'm reaping the benefits of using and teaching in this great new facility. It's the culmination of many people's efforts over a long period of time. We couldn't be more proud of how it's turned out. I'm looking forward to lots of creative and educational opportunities in the future."

As student Mouillot comments: "You can tell he's enjoying this as much as we are."

BY STACEY CURRY GUNN

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# Play Tackles Feminist, Transgender Issues

Award-winning playwright, director is committed to representing gay life and issues in his work

**A**PLAY BY "one of Canada's most controversial artistic forces" is coming to a theatre near you.

The School of English and Theatre Studies presents *Lola Starr Builds Her Dream Home* at the George Luscombe Theatre in the MacKinnon Building until Nov. 8.

Written and directed by drama professor Sky Gilbert, the play is based on the true story of 1950s movie star Lana Turner, who was accused — and acquitted — of murdering her abusive lover, gangster Johnny Stompanato.

*Lola Starr* was first produced in 1989 at the Edmonton Fringe Festival and later the same year at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre in Toronto, which Gilbert co-founded and served as artistic director of for 18 years. The play has also been published in *Canadian Theatre Review* (CTR) and in the *CTR Anthology*, used as a text for students studying Canadian plays.

*Lola Starr* is billed as a "musical melodrama that manages to be simultaneously campy and creepy, all the while dealing with feminist and transgender issues."

The student cast includes Christian MacInnis cross-dressed in the role of Lola and Christine Lafazanos cross-dressed as Lola's lover Johnny Bad.

"It's an interesting play for me because it's probably one of my funniest," says Gilbert. "Even though



Prof. Sky Gilbert hopes his play *Lola Starr* will get people thinking about the issues of violence against women and the treatment of women as second-class citizens.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

there's cross-dressing, it has a real mainstream appeal. There are a lot of political ideas in the play and lots of entertainment, so there's a very interesting tension. Some people aren't interested in thinking about ideas and other people are."

He says the cross-dressing element is a distancing effect, designed "to make people stop feeling and start thinking" about the issues of violence against women and the

treatment of women as second-class citizens.

Gilbert, who became an assistant professor at U of G this summer and has been teaching on campus since 1997, is currently working on a PhD at the University of Toronto. His dissertation, *Noel Coward: The Queer Feminine*, explores how Coward "negotiated himself as a gay man writing at a time when it was very difficult to be out."

As a playwright, novelist, poet, filmmaker, director, actor and self-described "drag queen extraordinaire," Gilbert is about as far out of the closet as one can get. His description of himself as "a controversial artistic force" arises from his ongoing commitment to representing gay life and issues.

"Gay life is the subject of my work and will continue to be in the future," he says, noting that his por-

trays of gay life, particularly of drag queens, fuels mixed feelings about his work within the gay community itself.

Dressing in drag can be a touchy subject for some gay men, he says. "It's one of my pet peeves; femininity is a wonderful thing. I'm all for femininity. I think some straight men could use some femininity; there would be fewer wars, fewer guns."

*Lola Starr* is one of more than 30 plays and musicals that bear Gilbert's name, including *The Dressing Gown*, *Playmurder*, *Drag Queens on Trial*, *Ban This Show*, *Pasolini/Pelosi* and *Capote at Yaddo*, all of which have been published by various presses. His play *Drag Queens in Outer Space* was performed in San Francisco in 1989, and *Ten Ruminations on an El-egy* Written by William Shakespeare toured England in 1996. His plays have also been produced in New York City, Chicago, Houston, Phoenix, Vancouver and Montreal.

Gilbert has won two Dora Mavor Moore Awards for outstanding work in the Toronto theatre community: in 1990 for writing *The Whore's Revenge* and in 1992 for producing his play *Suzie Goo: Private Secretary*. He received Ontario's Pauline McGibbon Award for directing in 1985.

*Lola Starr Builds Her Dream Home* runs nightly at 8 p.m. until Nov. 8, with a Saturday matinee at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$7 and \$9 and are available at the door.

BY STACEY CURRY GUNN

## Engineer to Provide Role Model for Women, Girls

Continued from page 1

for guidance and inspiration."

Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research), said Davidson "brings a reputation for leadership and strong industrial, academic and administrative experience to this chair. She has taken a prominent role in setting research directions for the University, and we applaud her for this exceptional accomplishment. We also want to thank NSERC for its support and HP for its generous donation of funding and employee participation that will allow Valerie's team to excel."

Davidson, who joined U of G in 1988, plans to use the chair to emphasize opportunities for women in computing applications in science and engineering, particularly those that involve biosystems. Currently, women make up about 30 per cent of undergraduates in the School of Engineering, well above the national average. But in computer-related engineering and science programs, the average is closer to 10 per cent.

"Many faculties across campus are facing the same challenge," she says. "Very few women are opting for computing science or computer engineering programs. The partnership with HP is ideal for addressing this problem because the company is recognized for innovation and technical leadership."

HP (Canada) is supporting the

chair through annual cash contributions and in-kind support, including having employees take part in on-campus programs and activities at elementary and high schools.

"We're excited to have the opportunity to further strengthen our relationship with Guelph through this innovative and purposeful chair," said Paul Tsaparis, HP president and CEO. "HP and the University share many common goals, including a strong commitment to providing high-quality educational opportunities and drawing attention to the many opportunities for girls and women in the fields of science and engineering. This initiative is a perfect blend of those objectives."

To achieve those goals, Davidson plans to use a novel team approach that includes integrating the departments of Computing and Information Science, Physics, Mathematics and Statistics, and Chemistry and Biochemistry. Female faculty from the various departments will work together to develop initiatives and activities designed to reach girls in elementary to high school and women through their university studies and into post-secondary careers. She hopes to build on past successes such as PAGES, the science and engineering camp for girls, expanding offerings both on and off campus for girls of all ages.

"It makes a difference, especially if we can reach girls at a very young age," she says. "I don't want them to see computers as something boring, but rather as a tool you can use to do a number of interesting things. Our female faculty and staff members are excellent role models, and the chair program will help co-ordinate outreach activities and evaluate the effectiveness of different initiatives."

One of five regional NSERC chairs, Davidson's chair has a mandate across Ontario. She will work to develop a provincial network to help women at a number of stages — from early education to post-secondary programs to early careers, including academic careers.

She will also encourage female faculty to serve as mentors, take on leadership roles at the University and develop a network of support services, all aimed at improving retention rates of women in undergraduate and graduate programs and in early related careers. Her plans include holding workshops on career skills for graduate students and providing assistance to junior female faculty members.

"All these initiatives will require a lot of co-ordination and teamwork," she says.

Davidson herself went through her entire undergraduate and graduate studies at McMaster University

without having a female science or engineering professor. In fact, the only class she ever took that was taught by a woman was an English course. At the time, she didn't think of it as unusual.

She recalls how in 1973, her third year at engineering school, a local newspaper wrote an article about the big increase in the number of women in her program. "About nine per cent of the class were women, and that was a fivefold increase over previous years," she says.

Davidson, who still has the newspaper clipping, was quoted in the article as the top student in her class. Also quoted was one of her professors, who remarked that having so many women in the engineering program added a "sparkle."

"Now I just read it and laugh," she says. "Whenever people tell me I'm making waves, I respond by saying: I'm just sparkling."

Davidson has established a successful interdisciplinary research program in food and biological engineering at U of G. In 2002, she was co-recipient of the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers Award for support of women in engineering and engineering excellence. She is an active member of the Women in Engineering Leadership Institute, a network of female academics in engineering across North America.

Along with other engineering faculty, she was also instrumental in the School of Engineering being named the first recipient of the Women-Friendly Engineering School/Faculties Award from the Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation in 1999.

NSERC first launched the CWSE chair program in 1996 to increase the participation of women in science and engineering. This is the second round of chair holders, with Davidson being the first new chair to be announced. NSERC will eventually name three other chair holders across Canada — in the Atlantic provinces, British Columbia and the prairie provinces. A fifth chair for Quebec will continue to be held by Claire Deschênes at Laval University.

For Davidson, the chair is an opportunity to build on the strengths of the School of Engineering that have drawn many women to Guelph.

"We've always had a unique engineering culture that ties into the University's strengths in the biological sciences. I believe it's because many of our female students see it as a program that improves quality of life and makes the world a better place. I want to show them that computing applications are a part of that process all across the engineering and science disciplines."

BY LORI BONA HUNT

## RETURNING TO HER ROOTS

*Rural extension worker to the world circles back to her Guelph-area beginnings*

By ANDREW VOWLES

GROWING UP ON THE FAMILY FARM in Eramosa, Helen Hambly Odame learned early to look askance at rural extension workers. Perhaps once a year, an official-looking visitor would drive up to the farm to spend a few minutes talking with her father, not in the barn but outside in the driveway. Invariably, he'd bring along a new "to-do list" involving land management practices. Whatever his message, a young Helen and her five siblings got a clear signal from their parents. "We would be told: 'Don't bother the extension worker.'"

The irony is hardly lost on Hambly Odame, who returned to Canada and to Guelph this summer as a rural extension professor in the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development. Her return caps her early career spent as a rural extension worker to the world, including serving with international agencies in Latin America and Africa.

This summer's appointment at U of G also brings her close to her own farming roots, although the former family homestead still evokes conflicted feelings for a woman who once told her parents that she was "never going into anything related to farming."

In a kind of double irony, she has remained close to both rural extension and farming, albeit a step removed as an international development worker and academic.

Admittedly, says Hambly Odame, rural extension and farming have changed since her Eramosa days, both in Ontario and abroad. In both cases, much of the change has been driven by her particular research and teaching field of agricultural knowledge systems and communications technology.

Today's extension worker in Ontario is no longer that visitor in a government-issue truck. "It could be someone at a computer managing a hotline, and maybe a farmer or a rural resident wants to share information on a particular question," she says. "The whole interface has changed in extension."

In developing countries, the need for rural extension has continued to grow, she says. If anything, there's an even greater demand for sharing of agricultural information with rural communities. Witness Kenya, with only one extension worker for every 3,800 farms.

For her, that all underlines the importance of Guelph's continued role in the field, a role she says is known worldwide. Her goals are to teach a new generation of extension workers and to conduct research in development communications, particularly in the use of rural radio and the Internet for sharing agricultural information abroad.

Currently, Hambly Odame teaches development communications — what she calls "communications for societal and environmental change" — to mostly graduate students in rural extension studies. Although that course draws on agricultural sciences, it's equally rooted in social sciences, recognizing the importance of communication and communications technology in helping to strengthen agrarian communities. Students gain exposure to multiple media, and she plans to develop a media lab to support teaching and international summer courses in development communications at Guelph.

The international flavour of rural extension is reflected in her students themselves. Although they're Canadian, nearly half claim ethnic roots in Asia, Africa and Latin America, and many plan to work abroad after graduation.

"The course allows students to draw on their international experience," she says. "Ninety per cent have travelled and worked overseas."



Hambly Odame studies rural connectivity and how to match communications technology and processes with needs and capabilities, particularly in other cultures.

"International development organizations have provided billions of dollars in rural extension to resource-poor users in the past four decades, yet an agency like the World Bank can evaluate its investment in rural extension and find that less than 10 per cent of rural women — who are the de facto farmers in Africa — have access to agricultural information."

Here at home, her rural communications research involves the shift to what she calls "virtual extension" or the use of technology extension hotlines or help desks. For instance, she's interested in the impact on farmers of using the Internet to post information bulletins from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food and other government agencies. Stressing that it's important to consider such issues as literacy rates, language and culture, she poses the rhetorical question: "Once a link goes virtual, what's lost?"

For her international research, Hambly Odame draws on her professional and personal connections with development projects in Africa. She has worked since 1996 as a specialist in local institutions and capacity building for the International Service for National Agricultural Research (ISNAR).

ISNAR was founded in 1979 as a unit within the CGIAR (Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research). An alliance of agricultural research organizations worldwide, ISNAR works to ensure that research benefits poor farmers in developing countries. Hambly Odame spent the past eight years at the organization's headquarters in The Hague.

In 2000, she started a project in rural radio intended to link agricultural researchers and radio broadcasters such as Radio Uganda with agrarian communities in Ghana, Cameroon, Mali

and Uganda. Partner agencies in the ISNAR project, called "Linking Agricultural Research and Rural Radio," include Guelph's School of Rural Extension Studies, the Developing Countries Farm Radio Network and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization.

"The question that we've tried to answer in our project is, how can broadcasters work with researchers and extension staff and at the same time take advantage of the rural radio phenomenon to reach people most in need?" Hambly Odame wrote in an article published by ISNAR this year.

Radio is a relatively inexpensive medium for sharing extension information and entertainment and for promoting self-reliance and community development in Africa.

"You'd be hard-pressed to find a current newspaper or a television set in most African villages, but radios are increasingly common and one of the most affordable information and communication technologies," says Hambly Odame, whose résumé also lists her as a farm radio scriptwriter.

It was through her work on the radio project that she learned of the opening at U of G. She'd been thinking about returning to academia and saw Guelph's mix of programs and expertise as an ideal fit. Still, she chuckles at how her career has circled back to its roots. "I couldn't believe I was coming back here."

She hasn't come alone: her three-year-old son lives with her. His two older stepbrothers live in Kenya. Their father, Hannington Odame, who graduated from U of G in 1990, is now finishing a PhD in economic policy and biotechnology in the Netherlands and will return to Africa to work. Allowing that their trans-Atlantic — and three-continent — family raises some eyebrows, she says: "It's an international and unconventional lifestyle. We share a commitment to Africa and our boys' lives."

Hambly Odame has a home on Lake Victoria near the Ugandan border, in a largely agrarian community that might well be a model for the raison d'être of rural extension. "The only rural extension services there are run by churches and charities," she says, allowing that the community also needs help to preserve its traditional knowledge of environment, food and nutrition, particularly as many lives have been lost to HIV/AIDS and malaria.

Her first brush with international development work came when she visited Peru at age 17 as a development volunteer. After earning an undergraduate degree at the University of Toronto, she worked with the International Development Research Centre in Canada and Kenya, and with other international programs in Morocco and Peru. She earned a PhD in environmental studies at York University in 2000.

By the time Hambly Odame was heading off to study at Toronto, mounting financial pressures were forcing her parents to look hard at their 100-acre mixed farm in Eramosa. Recalling the insecurity as her parents tried to keep the farm going, she also remembers the "high quality of life" afforded by being part of a rural community.

"We never lost the family even if we eventually lost the farm. Leaving the rural community was hard for me, as well as for my parents and some of my siblings. We consider it part of who we are and where we want to be." Two of her five siblings now live on farms and four live in rural areas.

"My agricultural roots matter to me," says Hambly Odame, recalling that U of G stood as something of a beacon for someone who grew up in the Guelph area. "The University was seen as a leader in agriculture and rural development. It's great to be here."

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWABE



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Scott Coburn



# 'I Could Do More for My Community'

Longtime United Way volunteer finds new motivation

THERE'S A MODEST three-room school in a small South African village that has an unusual connection to Guelph's United Way campaign.

The Ha Thafeng School — and particularly the young men who built it — challenged Eugene Kraemer to take on the responsibility of chairing the annual fundraising drive for the Guelph and Wellington United Way.

Kraemer has been manager of human resources at Blount Canada for 10 years, but he's been raising funds for the United Way since he graduated from U of G in 1972 and took his first job at the Co-operators. He moved to Blount in 1974 and carried his United Way commitment with him. Since then, he has canvassed his co-workers and chaired Blount's in-house campaign. He's also served on several Guelph and Wellington campaign cabinets, but says he might still have shied away from the community chair's position if not for the family lessons learned at the Ha Thafeng School.

It all began when Kraemer's son Jeremy — who is studying international development at U of G — returned from a summer trip to South Africa. Jeremy proceeded to enlist the entire Kraemer family to help build a village school in the tiny country of Lesotho. Eugene and his wife, Lynn, helped raise \$25,500 to fund the project, and Jeremy and his brother, John, a 2001 BA graduate of Guelph, bent their backs to build the school during a year-long stay in Lesotho in 2001.

According to their proud father, "the boys started digging the foundation by themselves, and pretty soon dozens of villagers were helping. It wasn't easy. There was no electricity, and water to mix the mortar had to

be carried more than a mile."

After seeing the kind of impact his sons had, Kraemer says it made him think he could do more for his own community. "My previous volunteer efforts were pretty minuscule compared with what they pulled off."

Kraemer says the experience in Lesotho has added a lot to family discussions about the importance of building better communities, both through global citizenship and by supporting organizations that answer the needs of people in Canadian communities.

The United Way, of course, represents 46 agencies that work for people in the Guelph community. And although Kraemer has known that for many years, he says the last few months have given him a better understanding of how great the need is right here at home.

"I've had the opportunity to attend a number of events and meet people from many of the local agencies funded by the United Way. These front-line workers are really powerful speakers with great insight into community needs." Many of them are also volunteers who have

Jeremy's "I-can-do-that" attitude, he says.

When Kraemer agreed to chair the county-wide campaign, a new group of volunteers came forward at Blount to run the company's annual campaign.

"It's been the most successful United Way campaign we've ever run," he says, with obvious pride in Blount's role as one of the pacesetter campaigns for this year's Guelph and Wellington campaign.

"We launched the community campaign in mid-September with 13.5 per cent of our \$2.25-million

goal in hand, and the momentum has continued to grow," he says. The Guelph and Wellington total is now more than \$812,000.

Kraemer has focused his efforts on encouraging individual gifts of more than \$1,000 from key business leaders in the community and establishing new corporate campaigns among Guelph's smaller companies.

The United Way fundraising strategy relies heavily on workplace campaigns, and Kraemer applauds the University community for continually coming through as the largest single contributor in Guelph. U of G's 2003 goal of \$285,000 will provide more than 10 per cent of next year's funding. Not to mention a high level of volunteer power.

"What I think is really interesting is how integrated U of G is in the community," says Kraemer. He cites as an example the Student Volunteer Connections website. "Look at the list of local organizations that welcome university students as volunteers. Most of the United Way agencies are listed there."

He also cites the volunteer work of University employees — both in the agencies and on Guelph and Wellington United Way governing committees. He doesn't want to forget the involvement of the University's campus co-chairs, the people who canvass their co-workers to give to the United Way and the support shown every year by the University's senior administrators.

"I believe in the power of one person who says: 'I can do that,'" concludes Kraemer. "But I believe even more in the power of a community working together." Whether it's building a three-room school in Lesotho or a safe haven for troubled teens in Guelph.

BY MARY DICKIESON

## United Way Campaign Announces Grand Prize

AS THE UNIVERSITY'S United Way campaign enters the home stretch of its \$285,000 campaign, there's a new incentive for members of the campus community to give to the local charity. Goliger's TravelPlus in Guelph has donated a grand-prize theatre package for the United Way incentive draw.

The package includes two tickets to a Stage West Theatre production in Toronto, with dinner, accommodation and breakfast included.

Everyone who returns a United Way pledge card and donation by campaign's end Nov. 30 will be eligible for the theatre prize. Draw date is Dec. 1. Pledge forms have been distributed to employees and retirees and are available to students online at [www.uoguelph.ca/unitedway](http://www.uoguelph.ca/unitedway).

The Goliger's theatre package is a final addition to more than 100 incentive prizes that were donated to the United Way campus committee. Co-chairs Toni Pellizzari, executive secretary to the dean of CBS, and Prof. Anthony Clarke, assistant vice-president (academic), say the incentive draws have encouraged early donations to the campus campaign, which stood at 82 per cent of goal as of Oct. 31.

Visit the United Way website for a listing of incen-

tive prize winners and to check for news of United Way events and raffles sponsored by individual departments across campus.

Upcoming events include a Toonie Tower Tour Nov. 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Johnston Hall clock tower. (Rain date is Nov. 7.) For \$2, you can climb the narrow winding staircase to the top of the clock tower for a view of the campus and the city. The event will also feature a garage sale and bake sale.

On the raffle front, Purchasing Services is holding a draw for nine donated prizes, including a digital camera, DVD player, winter coat, inkjet printers and a gift certificate from the Greek Garden. Tickets are \$2 each or three for \$5 and are available from Purchasing staff. The draw will be held Nov. 28. The prizes can be viewed in Purchasing on Level 5 of the University Centre.

Co-operative Education Services on Level 3 of the University Centre is again holding a raffle of themed baskets, with contents ranging from chocolate to bath items. Tickets are \$1 for one, \$2 for three.

The Department of Geography is raising money for the United Way by selling a cookbook titled *The Earthly Epicure*, containing more than 200 recipes. Cost is \$8.

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## WOMEN'S CAMPUS SAFETY INITIATIVES Call for Proposals, November 2003

Support is for programs, services or departments dealing with women's safety. Priority will be given to new initiatives that have not been previously funded by this grant. Initiatives must be implemented between January and August 30, 2004.

Proposals should demonstrate that the safety concerns of a broad range of women, or those particularly at risk, are being addressed. They should also demonstrate the expected impact of the project. We especially encourage submissions from or on behalf of the following at-risk campus populations: women with disabilities, female shift workers, women in non-traditional studies, lesbians, bisexual women, women of colour, aboriginal women and female continuing education students.

Application guidelines are available at the Human Rights and Equity Office and on the HREO website: [www.uoguelph.ca/hre/WCSI.htm](http://www.uoguelph.ca/hre/WCSI.htm). Application deadline is Nov. 12 at noon. Send applications to: Women's Campus Safety Initiatives Proposal, Human Rights and Equity Office, 15 University Ave. E., or fax to 822-1131. For more information, call WCSI chair Mahejabeen Ebrahim at Ext. 56025.

### THE WOMEN'S CAMPUS SAFETY INITIATIVES COMMITTEE

encourages proposals from all members of the  
University community, individuals or groups,  
faculty members, staff and students.

# Pet Trust Support Tops \$1 Million

Donations have increased tenfold since fund's inception

**P**ET OWNERS and veterinarians agree that the health of the animals in their care is of paramount importance — so much so that they supported OVC's Pet Trust Fund at unprecedented levels last year, says Laura Manning, OVC's director of advancement. In the fiscal year that ended in April, donations to Pet Trust totalled \$1.12 million, she says.

Since 1986, Pet Trust has promoted the health and quality of life of companion animals. The fund supports studies and special projects that lead to advances in veterinary medicine and improve the quality of care for pets. The fund is supported primarily by pet lovers and vets through donations in memory of or in honour of pets or pet-loving people and has seen a tenfold increase in donations since its inception.

The generosity of Pet Trust supporters has provided a significant boost to OVC's efforts to bring magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technology to the college, says 1977 OVC graduate Brian Crabbe, chair of the Pet Trust Fund Board of Trustees. Pet Trust began raising funds for an MRI unit in 1997 and, in 2001, committed to providing \$700,000 towards the purchase. This June, the board voted to contribute this amount in full, two years earlier than planned, as well as an additional \$500,000.

"Donations to Pet Trust continue to be overwhelming," says Crabbe. "Our supporters recognized our fundraising needs for MRI and the importance of this project for the care and treatment of companion animals."

A major boost came last year with a \$250,000 gift from the late Lyle Hallman and his wife, Wendy, of Kitchener. Their donation

brought Pet Trust's support of MRI to a total of \$1.45 million.

"People who care about pets care very much about the benefits that MRI will offer," says Manning. "Pet Trust supporters really want to see this project come to fruition — and have helped us to come within touching distance of doing so."

Thanks in part to Pet Trust's support, OVC plans to offer MRI as a diagnostic tool for animals with ailments such as neurological disease, cancer and cardiovascular disease as early as the end of next summer. Architects are currently drawing up blueprints for the construction and renovations necessary to house the equipment. Assuming that costs are as estimated, construction of the MRI facility will begin in late fall 2003, Manning says.

The MRI project was also supported through funding for a new Institute for Animal-Human Links in Health Science Research at OVC. The institute, which will focus on research that benefits both animal and human health, will include the MRI facility as well as research space and specialized animal holding facilities.

The new MRI equipment will allow the University to expand research efforts and clinical diagnosis and treatment of animals at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital by giving clinicians the best possible detail of soft tissue inside an animal's body, says Prof. Howard Dobson, Clinical Studies. Currently, animals needing MRIs are sent to London.

"This will make a huge difference in our ability to diagnose and treat cases," says Dobson. MRI will be able to help in applied research and clinical diagnosis of illnesses as varied as epilepsy, cancer, arthritis and visual impairments, he says.

BY KAREN GALLANT, OVC

# A Leader in Research

Continued from page 1

levels) and 13th overall. Guelph is the only university without a medical school that reported a research budget in excess of \$100 million.

"It's very gratifying to be distinguished both for our research intensity and for the broad spectrum of innovation that is being generated by our professors, researchers and students," says Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research).

The report said U of G's research income exceeded \$113 million in the 2002 fiscal year, an increase of almost seven per cent from the previous year. Guelph also had a per-faculty research funding average of \$166,700.

"This national recognition is a tribute to the success and dedication of our faculty and researchers, including our graduate students," says president Alastair Summerlee. "They cross disciplines and collaborate in the pursuit of knowledge and

excellence, and understand that there is an inherent connection between research and learning. They complement their scholarly work with a devotion to teaching, which is evident in our reputation for strengths in both areas."

The Infosource Inc. ranking is the latest in a series of national external reports that draw attention to Guelph's quality of teaching, research and student support. On Oct. 15, U of G was ranked the No. 1 university in Canada for campus atmosphere and technology resources in the University Report Card, a survey of Canadian undergraduates published by the *Globe and Mail*. Earlier, U of G was named the country's top comprehensive university and second among all institutions in public accountability and external reporting in the annual Canadian University Accountability Survey.

BY LORI BONA HUNT

# Building a Better Society

Prof explores issues of democracy and freedom, law and justice, identity and diversity

**F**IFTEEN YEARS after arriving in Canada as a refugee from his native Iran, Omid Payrow Shabani is putting down roots again, this time in Guelph, as a professor of philosophy at U of G.

Much has changed since the "dark and difficult" days he experienced as a new immigrant in Ottawa — 26 years old, at first unable to speak English or French and possessing little knowledge about the country he had come to.

Payrow Shabani soon learned both official languages, adding to his repertoire of Farsi (his first language), Serbo-Croat and Italian.

He went on to take two degrees at Carleton University, an honours BA in linguistics and philosophy in 1993 and an MA in philosophy in 1995. A PhD in philosophy followed at the University of Ottawa, where he became a part-time professor while also working as an analyst for the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

The opportunity to join Guelph's Department of Philosophy came early this year while he was in New York City doing an Andrew Mellon post-doctoral fellowship at New School University and teaching a PhD course on Canadian political philosophy.

In the spring, he also published his first book, *Democracy, Power and Legitimacy: The Critical Theory of Jürgen Habermas*.

The steady stream of achievements is evidence of Payrow Shabani's resolute approach to making the most of the educational and intellectual opportunities that have opened to him. But the wrench of leaving his homeland and family follows him to Guelph. It lingers in his eyes, his voice, his words and his work.

He has devoted his learning and professional career to addressing the questions forged by his coming of age in Iran during the revolution that brought the Ayatollah Khomeini to power in 1979.

"The reason I went to university and studied philosophy was, I wanted to figure out what was happening and what to do to work for the betterment of society."

Now a social and political philosopher, Payrow Shabani explores questions of democracy and freedom, law and justice, identity and diversity. His analysis and critique of German philosopher Habermas, for example, has to do "with the problems that democratic societies face as a result of the diversity of their composition."

He chose to concentrate on Habermas — and had to learn German to do so — because "he is the foremost political philosopher of our time. He has greatly influenced and shaped discourse about democracy and justice, so it is impossible to want to talk about those things and not deal with him."

Payrow Shabani argues in his book, however, that Habermas's writings during the 1990s "resulted in a complacency that weakened our critical ability to reproach the politi-



Prof. Omid Payrow Shabani recently published his first book, *Democracy, Power and Legitimacy: The Critical Theory of Jürgen Habermas*. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

cal power of the status quo for its failures."

He says he's come to believe that, given the increasing diversity and multiculturalism of western democratic societies, particularly in Canada, the best way to organize political association is to replace the traditional criteria of membership — based on things like kinship, language and religion — with civic criteria, the shared practice of law-making, "which is much more inclusive and accommodating of differences."

Payrow Shabani uses the recent Romanow Commission on the future of health care to illustrate his point.

"Romanow consulted Canadians and came back with recommendations for the renewal of laws and policies governing health care. The practice of law-making is the actual procedure by which citizens exert influence and recognize their fellow citizens as free and equal partners. This fosters trust and unity."

Payrow Shabani is organizing a major conference on this theme, to be held at U of G in November 2004. "The Practice of Law-making and the Problem of Difference" will bring some of the big names in social and political philosophy together, including Habermas and other eminent people in the field, he says.

What does Habermas think of his theories? "He said: 'It's a good book,' and that made my day," says Payrow

Shabani.

The book is dedicated to his parents because "I caused them too much pain. I was a rebellious, unruly teenager who caused them too much grief as a political activist in a totalitarian society. It is in recognition of their sacrifices."

As he continues his work, he is ever mindful of the socio-political situation in Iran. Now a Canadian citizen, he continues to follow news about Iran closely, to study the Iranian situation and to maintain close contact with Iranian intellectuals outside the country.

Payrow Shabani can't shake the idea of "going back and trying to use some of the stuff learned here to teach young people there and influence change," although he dismisses it as sounding "too naïve, utopian and idealistic."

But realistic or not, the longing remains. He turns to the poetry of Ahmed Shamlou — "the foremost poet of Iran" — to express his inner turmoil.

One verse in particular "sums up the situation of people like me who are not few but many," Payrow Shabani says, translating from the original Farsi:

"We were told that we'd be taught the Holy Word, but in return, we had to endure great suffering. The great suffering, yes, we endured, so much so that the Holy Word escaped us."

BY STACEY CURRY GUNN

# Phones to Set New Tone

Guelph first university in Canada to implement campus-wide IP voice, data network

**S**TATE-OF-THE-ART telephone service will soon be at your fingertips. Beginning next month, the phones that have been sitting on U of G student, staff and faculty desks since 1985 will be replaced with phones that offer all the options of the old ones but have the power of small PCs and connect directly to the campus data network system.

The new phones will have services to make communicating more efficient, including call waiting, call display, one-touch access to voice mail and access to the campus directory. Down the road, the phones will have the capability of integrating voice mail and e-mail services and providing other information services, says Ron Elmslie, director of Computing and Communications Services (CCS).

Guelph will be the first university in Canada to completely implement a campus-wide IP voice and data network, says Elmslie. "Running voice, video and data over one network will improve feature and service delivery."

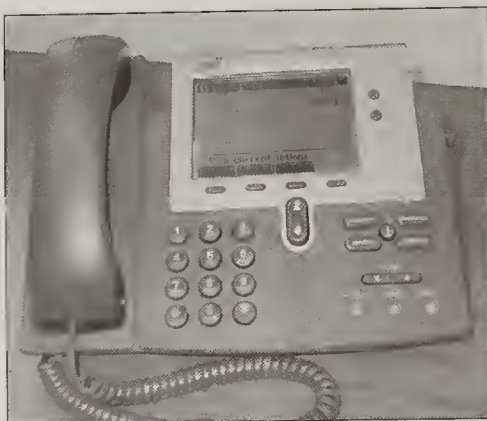
When the University's current phone system, legacy PBX, reached user capacity two years ago, a campus telecommunications committee was formed to investigate the options available. It selected the Integrated Communications Network (ICN) after a thorough review.

U of G began deploying ICN last year by feeding cabling, connected to the campus network, throughout all campus buildings. The phones will plug directly into the network, and computers will plug into the phones. The network will feature 7,000 new phones and 12,000 data ports across campus, making it one of the largest integrated communications networks in Canada.

First to receive the new phones were students in East Village in 2001. Next were students in East Residences and the CCS Help Desk. The next phase of the ICN initiative will equip the University Centre with the new phones in late November and early December. Most academic departments will move over to the new equipment by June 2004. The entire campus will be using the new communications system by September 2004.

Interruptions during the phone installation will be minimal, says Elmslie. The new phones will be delivered and installed by CCS staff, and all phone extensions will remain the same.

Because the current and new phones run on different operating systems, calls between the two will register as outside calls with a double



In the coming months, this telephone will replace all the current phones on campus. PHOTO BY RACHELLE COOPER

ring. In addition, voice mail messages cannot be transferred between the two systems. By June 2004, when the phones are all shifted to the new system, caller identification — name and extension — for all internal and external calls will appear on the phone display. Until then, callers on the current phone system will be identified only by their extension number.

Elmslie notes that CCS is offering training and ongoing technical support. For a list of training opportunities or to take advantage of the online training seminar, visit the CCS website at [www.uoguelph.ca/ccs](http://www.uoguelph.ca/ccs). The Help Centre at Ext. 58888 will expand to offer phone assistance as well as computer support. In addition, each new phone has a help button labelled "P" that guides the user through different functions.

The new system will be extremely reliable, says Kent Percival, manager of central systems development at CCS.

"Instead of relying on central power in Johnston Hall, we will have additional power sources in the Animal Science and Nutrition Building, giving us reliability through redundancy. By December 2004, the new phone service will also be backed up by the campus diesel generators."

Each new phone is equipped with a large display screen, speaker phone and headset jack. Because the display screen is large enough for nine lines of text, much more than the caller ID appears on the screen. You'll also find the time and date in the top left-hand corner, your ID at the top right and status information such as the number of voice mail messages along the bottom. A red light on the handset indicates waiting voice mail. Users will also have the choice of 32

different rings.

The campus directory will be accessible from the new phones. Once the desired number is found in the directory, you simply have to pick up the handset or press the headset/speaker button to dial the number automatically.

Below the display screen on the right side of the phone are four buttons labelled "Messages," "Directories," "Services" and "Settings," which link to different options. Up and down arrows in the middle of the phone allow you to scroll through various functions and settings on the display screen. There are also buttons to mute and change the volume of the phone.

"I find the phone is very intuitive," says Deborah MacDougall, the ICN phone project co-ordinator. "People will appreciate how quickly the phone dials out. It seems instantaneous."

BY RACHELLE COOPER

## ACADEMIC INFO CORNER

**Editor's note:** This column is part of a continuing series running throughout the 2003/2004 academic year. It is written by David Hornsby, academic commissioner of the Central Student Association, and Shari Dorr, co-ordinator of the Undergraduate Academic Information Centre.

**B**Y THIS POINT in the semester, students should have received grades for completed interim work, including mid-term examinations, and many will have questions about how they can improve. U of G provides a variety of resources to help students achieve academic success.

A key resource is the student-to-student academic support available at U of G. This includes the CSA academic commissioner and peer helpers working in various units on campus. In the Learning Commons, for example, peer helpers provide services that enhance learning, writing and library research. (The commons is located on the main floor of the McLaughlin Library and online at [www.Learningcommons.uoguelph.ca](http://www.Learningcommons.uoguelph.ca).)

At the Undergraduate Academic Information Centre (UAIC), peer helpers provide general information about academic policies and regulations to help students make good academic decisions. (The centre is located on the third floor of the University Centre and online at [www.uoguelph.ca/uaic](http://www.uoguelph.ca/uaic).)

In residences, academic programmers offer study sessions, activities and communications on academic topics to meet the needs of their hall's residents. Academic clusters (groups of students living

together and enrolled in the same academic program) receive support from cluster leaders.

The CSA academic commissioner serves as an advocate for undergraduates when it comes to academic (and student financial) issues.

Instructor-to-student support includes extra instructional opportunities such as review sessions, help rooms and access to instructors during office hours. Instructors should encourage students to discuss their approach to studying for an exam, as well as the completion of course requirements. Students should also have the opportunity to discuss graded work, so they can learn from an outcome that may not meet their expectations.

Instructors receive support in helping students succeed from Teaching Support Services (TSS). TSS supports both the teaching efforts and the professional development of all Guelph staff involved with teaching. Instructional development is encouraged through workshops, conferences, programs and individual consultation. For more information, visit the website [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca).

Whether you're distributing results as an instructor or receiving them as a student, we urge you to take advantage of the resources offered by the University. If you're a student who continues to face academic difficulty or an instructor who recognizes a student is having problems, you can speak to and/or refer to the appropriate program counsellor. If you're not sure where to turn, the UAIC or the CSA academic commissioner can steer you in the right direction.

## CCS, Library Mark GIS Day With Open House Nov. 17

**C**OMPUTING and Communications Services (CCS) and the McLaughlin Library will mark GIS (Geographic Information Systems) Day Nov. 17 with an open house and map gallery from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the University Centre courtyard. GIS Day is an annual global event that is focusing this year on the theme "Mapping the Potential of GIS."

At the open house, campus GIS users will showcase the contributions being made with GIS at U of G and in the local community and explore the potential role of GIS in teaching, learning and research.

GIS is a computer-based mapping tool that takes information from a database about a location, such as streets, buildings, water features and terrain, and turns it into visual layers. The ability to see geographic features on a map gives users a better understanding of a particular location, enabling planners, ana-

lysts and others to make informed decisions. Some recent high-profile uses of GIS have included mapping the debris field following the Columbia space shuttle tragedy, tracking hurricanes Juan and Isabel and monitoring the spread of SARS.

Here at U of G, GIS is being used in teaching and research in a range of academic units, including the School of Rural Planning and Development, the School of Engineering and the departments of Sociology and Anthropology, Land Resource Science, Population Medicine, Geography and Zoology.

Last year, Guelph joined the more than 6,500 colleges and universities worldwide using ESRI GIS software for research and teaching by acquiring a site licence for the program. Since then, more than 200 U of G students have enrolled in free not-for-credit online GIS courses offered by ESRI, and at least 50 graduate students have attended

introductory GIS workshops offered by Academic Services.

"As users from a wide variety of disciplines rely increasingly on geospatial information for their teaching, learning and research, the library has been working with many agencies around the country to significantly expand our collection of GIS data and to enhance the services that help users of these resources," says chief librarian Michael Ridley. "Our partnership with CCS on this initiative has resulted in a dramatic growth in the use of GIS on campus."

Everyone is invited to attend the Nov. 17 open house, which will feature posters and demonstrations by students and faculty. Representatives of the City of Guelph, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, the Weather Network, ESRI Canada and the Grand River Conservation Authority will also be on hand.

For more details, contact Quin Shirk-Luckett at [ccas@uoguelph.ca](mailto:ccas@uoguelph.ca).

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# Chemist Aims to Recapture His Winest Hour

Two years after winning gold and silver for his wines, U of G prof is seeing red — and several whites — as his entry back into competition

**T**HERE'S A COMEBACK quietly fermenting in a corner of Prof. Saul Goldman's basement.

Two years after clinching top provincial and national prizes for his wines, the longtime U of G chemist has filled an assortment of glass carboys in his low-ceilinged basement with an inaugural batch of Bordeaux and several white wines in anticipation of a return to competition.

"It's a new generation," says Goldman.

If the racks of bottles piled against the whitewashed stone walls are any indication, his hiatus from competing has hardly stopped him from producing copious batches of reds and whites. Once a winemaker, always a winemaker, it seems.

When he first walked into a "make-your-own" place some 13 years ago, Goldman was hardly thinking about winning prizes. He and his wife, Ethel, enjoy wine with their meals, but he was fed up with paying good money for plonk. Figuring he could do better, he picked up an "idiot sheet" and made his first batch. Encouraged by the results, he made more.

A key step was joining the Royal City Winemakers Guild, whose members met monthly to discuss aspects of winemaking, to hold tastings and to provide mutual support.

"There's a lot to winemaking," he says. "It's a craft, with an art and science mix."

Every step in the process can make or break the bottle — from the type of grapes you choose to the fermentation time or temperature to the choice of wines for blending. "You take your time thinking about these things," he says.

Goldman began competing in 1994, entering his wines locally, then provincially through the Amateur



Prof. Saul Goldman's basement holds thousands of bottles of his homemade wine. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Winemakers of Ontario. His awards culminated in 2001 with a gold medal and best of show in Ontario for a 1997 Chardonnay and two silver medals in Canada.

The chemist makes what he calls the classics. For whites, he likes Riesling, Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Muscat Canelli and Gewürtztraminer. For reds, he prefers Bordeaux, Rhone and Pinot Noir.

He starts with flash-frozen grapes from California that he blends with Canadian varieties. Part of the craft — or perhaps the art — is what he calls "the hunt" for a source of the right grapes every year.

That's a challenge for an amateur, who can end up with little more than the dregs after the large commercial wineries have snapped up most of

the year's available grapes. Conditions this year have made things tough for Niagara-area growers and even tougher for do-it-yourselfers. "Amateurs are getting almost nothing," says Goldman.

Still, he says the results are worth the scramble. And whereas commercial operations rely on being able to turn out a consistent product from one batch to the next, home enthusiasts can afford to take chances and experiment.

"The flavours of amateurs are more exciting than those of commercials," he says. "Commercials tend to over-finish for the general public." As an amateur, "ultimately, you're trying to please yourself."

Of course, if you're going to experiment, you have to be prepared

for the occasional failure. Take that one Cabernet he made whose fermentation was delayed because of non-vigorous yeast.

"It was so vile that it had a psychological impact on me. Every time I thought of the taste, I nearly..."

Goldman grimaces and shakes his head, then repeats the winemaker's mantra: "It's very hard to make good wine from bad grapes, but it's easy to make bad wine from good grapes."

Hoping to eventually add a few medals to the collection of awards hanging above his living room fireplace, he mixed up a batch of Bordeaux and white wines last year, now aging and clarifying in those carboys downstairs. In about a year, he'll be ready to bottle the results.

His hobby — and the telltale fruity scent of winemaking — pervades the entire unfinished cellar. Thousands of full bottles are stored in wooden cabinets or stacked against the walls, with various sections labelled with names and dates.

He's got all the winemaker's paraphernalia, including a crusher, basket press, corking machine and filter. On one wooden shelf stands a row of bottles and jars that might not be out of place in a chemistry lab. Indeed, Goldman occasionally visits the U of G chemistry storeroom to buy winemaking supplies such as hydrochloric acid and potassium bicarbonate.

He allows that he probably has a better-than-average grasp of the science, including the mysteries of oxidation and reduction or recognizing that it's diacetyl that lends a "buttery nose" to a Chardonnay. But "being a chemist is of no particular help with respect to the intuitive side of winemaking," he says.

In the other direction, it was his hobby that last year prompted fellow winemaker Prof. Paul Voroney, Land Resource Science, to mention a nascent research group on campus. As a member of the Guelph Grape and Wine Group, Goldman is interested in studying so-called antifreeze proteins in wild freeze-resistant grapes that might provide clues to preventing the growth of ice crystals in commercial grapes.

After the basement wine tour, Goldman sits upstairs and swirls a Muscat in his glass. With retirement not all that far away, does he think about opening a boutique winery?

That would be taking a hobby too far, he says. "I just like the challenge — and you get to drink the best stuff."

BY ANDREW VOWLES

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# 'Where Is Food Research Done? It's Guelph'

Continued from page 1

related proteins, particularly enzymes involved in such processes as cheese production. In addition to the CRC, his work is funded by NSERC and the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI).

He has been a member or chair of numerous NSERC awards panels and committees, served on various CFI panels and was a member of the Royal Society Expert Panel on the Future of Food Biotechnology. The author of more than 120 refereed papers, Yada served as editor-in-chief of the *Food Research International Journal* from 1992 to 1998, is the current North American editor of *Trends in Food Science and Technology*, is a Fellow of the Canadian Institute of Food Science and Technology and is a recipient of the Ontario Agricultural College's Alumni Association Distinguished Researcher Award.

The NCE in Advanced Foods and Materials will involve about 90 scientists and scholars at universities and research institutions across Canada for studies under three main theme areas. University of Guelph researchers across all six colleges will be represented in all three themes, including several project and theme leaders:

- **Structure-dynamics-function of foods and biomaterials.** Prof. John Dutcher, Physics, is theme leader for the largest group in the network. He will also lead two projects within this theme, studying protein molecules and bacterial adhesion to surfaces of foods and soft materials.

Three projects studying aspects of biological molecules at surfaces and bacterial biofilms will be led by Profs. Terry Beveridge, Microbiology, Yoshinori Mine, Food Science, and Hermann Eberl, Mathematics and Statistics. Prof. Alejandro Marangoni, Food Science, will co-lead a project to study thermo-mechanical structuring of complex food systems.

"These are very complicated problems, but our hope is that by using this widely interdisciplinary approach, we can get people from different backgrounds to think

about the same problems from different points of view," says Dutcher. As director of the Centre for Food and Soft Materials Science at U of G, he already works with Beveridge on a project funded by Materials and Manufacturing Ontario to study thin film polymers and bacteria on surfaces.

- **Functional foods and nutraceuticals.** Profs. Saul Goldman, Chemistry and Biochemistry, and Chris Gray, Physics, will lead a team investigating extraction, processing and evaluation of nutraceuticals. Prof. Bruce Holub, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences, will lead another group examining functional foods containing omega-3 fatty acids.

- **Genetics, ethics, economics, environment, law and society.** Within this theme area, Prof. Spencer Henson, cross-appointed to the departments of Agricultural Economics and Business and Marketing and Consumer Studies, will lead projects on regulation and policy in food innovation. Prof. David Castle, Philosophy, will examine the ethics of labelling genetically modified foods, and Prof. Cecil Forsberg, Microbiology, will help lead a project using analytical tools for evaluating food safety.

The "materials" side of the new NCE reflects the growing use of agricultural materials to develop new kinds of products, says Yada.

One Alberta researcher, for example, is studying the use of sunflowers as "factories" to produce non-latex rubber. Another project will see a chemical engineer at the University of Western Ontario working with researchers at Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto on artificial skin for use in cancer therapy. In another project on hydrogels, "liquid bandages" may be used to deliver antimicrobial agents or nutraceuticals.

Planning for this research network began with an idea for a "food council" to include nutrition, engineering, food safety and food science, says Yada. Recognizing the social and health aspects of food and soft materials, he and his co-applicants expanded that initial concept to encompass consumer aspects such as ethics, economics and regulations.

Referring to his involvement in the Royal Society panel that wrote the report *Elements of Precaution: Recommendations for the Regulation of Food Biotechnology in Canada*, Yada says he's also intrigued by the possibilities for collaboration across disciplines afforded by the new network.

He points to a project involving a U of G microbiologist and transgenics expert working with philosophy and legal scholars.

"This is cool that you can actually bring people from disparate backgrounds to address a single issue."

Yada notes that because of the projected need for scientists with ex-

pertise in foods and materials over the next decade, the proposal emphasizes the importance of the NCE in providing research opportunities for graduate students.

"We looked at Canada's Innovation Strategy and the need to train people and become competitive."

He says the network will also stress communication of research results and increasing scientific literacy through such programs as Students Promoting Awareness of Research Knowledge (SPARK), which started at U of G and is now sponsored by NSERC, and the Let's Talk Science network.

"Not only do we do good science, but we are also able to communicate effectively to the people who are really paying for the research," he says.

Out of more than 200 candidate projects under the initial NCE proposal, Yada and his colleagues included about 60 projects in a letter of intent in early 2002. Invited last fall to submit a formal proposal, they completed a full application this spring.

"We knew we wanted the best of the best researchers and projects," he says.

Those researchers include a number of Canada Research Chairs, not least of which is Yada's own. As a chairholder, he hopes to enable more efficient use of existing food proteins and to help design new proteins for specific uses.

As scientific director of the new NCE, he expects to divide his time between his office in the Food Science Building and new administrative quarters for the network planned for the Research Park.

Participating researchers in the network come from 24 universities, 30 industries and 30 government departments and organizations from Canada and abroad.

Referring to the initial NCE funding as "seed money," Yada says he hopes to attract further funding from other organizations and industry to help make the network self-sufficient. Most Canadian food-processing companies are based in southwestern Ontario, making the University a natural hub for this network. "Where is food research done? It's Guelph."

Dutcher says various companies have expressed interest in the new group, including a firm that has attracted attention for an innovative way of making high-strength spider silk proteins in goat's milk.

"The creation of the NCE gives companies access to experts and allows university scientists access to unique materials so they can think about all kinds of different applications."

Created in 1985, the NCE program is part of Canada's Innovation Strategy and is intended to foster research partnerships among universities, industry and government.

BY ANDREW VOWLES



## Where Are You Now?

If you know where this photo was taken on campus, be the first to submit the correct answer and you'll be recognized with a mention in the next issue of *@Guelph* and have your name entered in a prize draw at the end of the semester for a \$50 gift certificate donated by the University Bookstore. Send your response to [r.cooper@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:r.cooper@exec.uoguelph.ca) or call Ext. 56982. The first person to correctly identify last week's photo as the back door of Rathby House was Julia Beswick of the president's office.

PHOTO BY RACHELLE COOPER

## Beef Industry Focus of Raithby Lecture

RONALD GREEN, national program leader of food animal production in the agricultural research service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, will deliver an OAC Raithby Memorial Lecture Nov. 18 at 2 p.m. in the Ontario Veterinary College's Lifetime Learning Centre. His topic is "Vertical Integration in the North American Beef Industry: Challenges and Opportunities."

Lecture co-organizer Prof. Stephen Miller, Animal and Poultry Science, says food safety inspectors might be able to trace a suspected

case of mad-cow disease back to the source animal more quickly and easily if an integrated production system were to replace today's "fragmented" beef production operations.

And he says cutting out the people between producers and meat packers might help avert the kind of devastating price spirals experienced by producers after this year's BSE scare in western Canada.

The memorial lecture is being hosted by the Department of Animal and Poultry Science. It is named for the late George Raithby, chair of animal science from 1954 to 1965.

## CRCs Awarded to Two

Continued from page 1

"I am honoured to have been selected for a CRC award," she says, "especially since there are so many other excellent researchers working in the field."

Yada, who was named a Canada Research Chair in Food Protein Structure (see front-page story), says he's "absolutely thrilled. During my career, I have been blessed with innovative and creative researchers at all levels from undergraduates to post-doctoral fellows. This award represents their efforts."

The CRC program was established three years ago to help Canadian universities attract and retain excellent faculty. Guelph expects to

eventually have 35 CRC researchers, and its current 20 chairs are worth some \$28 million when federal and provincial support is included.

"Guelph has many milestones to celebrate as a result of this announcement," said Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research).

"Across the disciplines, our Canada Research Chairs are engaged in teaching and research that are dynamic, innovative and collaborative and reach beyond the boundaries of their fields. These CRCs build on the high levels of research excellence that Dr. Sharom and Dr. Yada have already achieved."

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# CLASSIFIEDS

## THANK YOU

My family and I have been overwhelmed with kind and thoughtful words of comfort on the passing on of my mother, Maria. Words cannot express our thanks and gratitude for your cards and e-mails and for the beautiful floral arrangements. We are truly blessed to have such a network of wonderful friends and co-workers on this campus. Julie Round.

## FOR SALE

1999 Honda Civic CX hatchback, red, five-speed, certified, emissions-tested, 80,000 kilometres, 824-0925.

Trek ZX-8000 mountain bike, Indy SL suspension, aluminum frame, used only one season; Ibanez Ex-Series six-string electric guitar with case, Mark, 763-7812.

Teak dining table, 8'8" (including two 20" leaves) by 3'6", 763-4539.

Handmade wooden clothes dryers, Ext. 56580.

Double sofa bed, contemporary design, excellent condition, 824-9506 evenings.

Three braided oval mats, dark green with white flecks, 53" by 29", Ext. 58317.

Apartment-sized Whirlpool washer and dryer with stand, white, stackable, energy-efficient, washer connects directly to kitchen faucet, used only four months, free delivery, 833-2736.

Black desk with grey hutch, pull out keyboard tray, two open shelves;

wood-coloured computer desk; two-drawer letter-size filing cabinet, includes hanging racks and files, Katie, 767-1344 or katiehickey@hotmail.com.

## FOR RENT

Furnished house in downtown area on the river, \$1,200 a month includes biweekly cleaning, 836-4186 or learning@sentex.ca.

Furnished room near Stone Road Mall and Ultra Food Mart, close to bus stop and campus, 827-0357.

One-bedroom apartment suitable for student, seven minutes to campus, laundry, cable, no lease, no parking, \$575 a month plus hydro, 763-0449 or mnelisch@uoguelph.ca.

Furnished two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes, France, weekly or monthly; furnished one-bedroom apartment in Paris, short-term rental, fmoll@webtv.net.

Furnished two-bedroom condo in Phoenix Mill, two baths, Jacuzzi, ensuite laundry, parking, controlled entrance, available Dec. 1, \$1,500 a month, Carol, 823-1857, 731-1857 or Intelrent@hotmail.com.

One-bedroom basement apartment in quiet neighbourhood, suitable for

one person, gas fireplace, separate entrance, parking for one car, non-smoker, no pets, available immediately, references required, \$550 a month inclusive, Angie, 821-9693.

## AVAILABLE

Tutoring or private lessons in French or Spanish by experienced teacher, limited times available, 824-0536 or dbuchner@uoguelph.ca.

Certified guitar teacher for beginner or intermediate players, Mark, 763-7812.

In-home personal trainer with equipment for personalized workouts, Eleni, 824-7716 or ckapetanios@hotmail.com.

Experienced reliable housekeeper, reasonable rates, free estimates, references provided, Lisa, 763-4506.

Housekeeper to clean small home or apartment, references, Carol, 763-1507.

## WANTED

Guelph Ringette seeks new members for the Belle team (born between 1985 and 1987) and the open team (born in 1984 or earlier), 767-3241 or visit the website [www.eteamz.com/guelphringette](http://www.eteamz.com/guelphringette).

## HOUSE FOR RENT - Jan.1 to May 31, 2004

House in older neighbourhood of Guelph. King Street, edge of downtown, by Wolfond Park and Speed River, half-hour walk or 10 minutes by bus from the University. Comfortable, clean, completely redecorated end bright older home, 3 bedrooms, upstairs office available for additional bedroom, sitting room with gas fireplace, dining room, modern kitchen, three bathrooms, den/office, finished walk-in basement with office and TV/VCR area. Low-maintenance gardens, decks, wooded back garden & arbour carport. Cost-efficient natural gas fireplace with baseboard hot water radiator heating throughout. Non-smoking. Friendly family cat ("Tommy") comes with house (basement overnight).

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## ARBORETUM

The Arboretum's Sunday afternoon walks continue Nov. 9 with a hike on the McCrae Memorial Trail and Nov. 16 with "Mosses, Mushrooms and More." On Nov. 23, the focus is on the ways animals survive. The walks leave from the Nature Centre at 2 p.m. A donation of \$3 is suggested.

The Arboretum's Theatre in the Trees presents the farce *Bocing Boeing* by Marc Camoletti and Beverley Cross throughout the fall. Doors open at 6 p.m. Cost is \$53. For tickets, call Ext. S4110.

The Arboretum Centre hosts *Création*, an interactive performance for children of all ages featuring the Brothers Sylvain and Steve, Nov. 18 at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 and are available from the Arboretum or Simply Wonderful.

## ART CENTRE

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre presents a brown bag lunch talk featuring Prof. Jean Maddison, Fine Art and Music, Nov. 11 at noon. Maddison will discuss the art centre's current exhibition "From the Bachinski-Chu Print Study Collection."

The art centre's annual "Beyond the Frame" auction party is Nov. 15. Doors open at 5:45 p.m. The live auction begins at 7:15 p.m. Tickets are \$40 and are available at the art centre information desk and at the Framing and Art Centre.

## ATHLETICS

The men's hockey team is at home to Windsor Nov. 8 at 7:30 p.m. and Nov. 9 at 2 p.m., to Western Nov. 13 at 7:30 p.m. and to l'Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières Nov. 22 at 2 p.m.

The U of G swim team hosts Laurentian Nov. 9 at 9 a.m.

The basketball Gryphons host Carleton Nov. 14 and Ottawa Nov. 15, with the women's teams playing at 6 p.m. and the men's teams at 8 p.m. The Gryphon men's team is also at home to Western Nov. 19 at 7:30 p.m. McMaster comes to Guelph Nov. 22, with the women's teams playing at 1 p.m. and the men's at 3 p.m.

The men's volleyball Gryphons take on Ryerson Nov. 15 at 2 p.m.

The women's hockey team is at home to Windsor Nov. 16 at 4 p.m. and Western Nov. 21 at 7:30 p.m.

## CONCERTS

The Thursday noon-hour concerts continue Nov. 6 with Mei Han and Randy Raine-Reusch performing new music for the Chinese zheng. Nov. 13 with Kathryn Ladano on

bas clarinet and Nov. 20 with the University of Guelph Concert Winds led by John Goddard. The concerts begin at 12:10 p.m. in MacKinnon 107. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

## CONFERENCES

"The New Rural Community: Problems and Prospects" is the theme of the fourth annual Rural Studies PhD Conference, to be held Nov. 7 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the OMAF building. Registration (which includes lunch) is \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. For more information, visit the website [www.uoguelph.ca](http://www.uoguelph.ca).

U of G hosts the 14th annual Tri-University History Conference Nov. 8 in OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre. This year's theme is "History, Turning Points and Ordinary Lives." Conference tickets are \$20 (including lunch) and can be obtained from the Department of History or at the door starting at 8:30 a.m.

## LECTURES

The 2003 Harshman Lecture features Peter Fraenkel of the University of New York discussing "The Families Are the Experts!" Nov. 6 at 7 p.m. in Macdonald Hall 149. A reception will follow.

The Department of Animal and Poultry Science hosts the OAC Rathby Memorial Lecture Nov. 18 at 2 p.m. in OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre. Ronald Green of the U.S. Department of Agriculture will discuss "Vertical Integration in the North American Beef Industry: Challenges and Opportunities."

Ian Thomson of the Maquila Solidarity Network will speak Nov. 18 as part of the Human Rights and Equity Office's Human Rights Discussion Group. His talk begins at 5:30 p.m. in MacNaughton 113. His topic is "Stamping Out Sweatshop Abuses and Child Labour: Promoting Labour Rights in the Global Garment Industry."

## NOTICES

U of G will hold its annual Remembrance Day Service Nov. 11 from 10:45 to 11:20 a.m. in War Memorial Hall.

The Paris Semester Committee is looking for a director to lead the study-abroad program in winter 2005. Deadline for applications is Dec. 1. For more information, contact Prof. Jay Lampert, chair of the committee, at Ext. 53220 or [jlampert@uoguelph.ca](mailto:jlampert@uoguelph.ca).

MuchMusic is coming to campus Nov. 6 to audition VJ hopefuls from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. in Peter Clark Hall. Members of the community are invited to watch. For more information, visit the website [www.muchmusic.com/vjsearch](http://www.muchmusic.com/vjsearch).

## SEMINARS

The Department of Microbiology presents Michael Mourez of the University of Montreal at St. Hyacinthe discussing "Structure-Function Studies of Anthrax Toxin and Design of Toxin Inhibitors" Nov. 6 at 3 p.m. in OVC 1434. The seminar is co-sponsored by the Department of Chemistry at the University of Waterloo.

Next up in the Department of Microbiology graduate student seminar series is Leslie Cuthbertson explaining "Functional RNA in Bacterial Physiology" Nov. 7 and Shoshana Tsatskis considering "Virulence and Pathogenicity of *Helicobacter pylori*" Nov. 14. The seminars begin at 12:30 p.m. in Axelrod 117.

"The Meat Factor: Increasing Iron Intake From the Diet?" is the focus of Prof. Peter Purslow, Food Science, in the Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences seminar series Nov. 7. Prof. Glen Pyle, Biomedical Sciences, discusses "At the Crossroads: Regulating Muscle Function Through the Z-Discs" Nov. 14. On Nov. 21, post-doctoral researcher Zhongfei Yuan considers "Regulation of Glycogen Synthase-3beta Mediated Tau Protein Phosphorylation." The seminars begin at 1 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 141.

The Axelrod Institute of Ichthyology seminar series continues Nov. 11 with Jocelyn Poissant, Zoology, discussing "Landscape Genetics and Evolution of Newfoundland Highland Brook Trout" and Nov. 18 with Prof. Dominique Bureau, Animal and Poultry Science, exploring "Use and Limitations of Bioenergetics to Predict Fish Growth: The Case for the Development of a Nutrient-Flow Fish Growth Model." The seminars begin at noon in Axelrod 168.

The Department of Botany seminar series continues Nov. 11 with Prof. Barb Mable, Botany, examining "Why Polyploidy Is Rarer in Animals Than in Plants: Myths and Mechanisms" and Nov. 18 with Irwin Brodo of the Canadian Museum of Nature discussing "Maritime Lichens of Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Island), B.C.: Ecological, Phytogeographic and Taxonomic Observations." The seminars begin at 3:30 p.m. in Axelrod 265A.

Next up in the Department of Physics seminar series Nov. 11 is Prof. Bruno Tomberli exploring "Intermediate States in the Structure of Glassy Water." On Nov. 18, Josef Zwanziger of Dalhousie University describes "Amorphous Materials for Optical and Electrochemical Applications." The talks begin at 4 p.m. in MacNaughton 113.

"Characterizations of Protein Factors Regulating the Initiation of DNA Replication in Budding Yeast" is the topic of Bernard Duncker of

the University of Waterloo in the biochemistry seminar series Nov. 13 at noon in MacNaughton 222. On Nov. 20, Kara Scott, Chemistry and Biochemistry, explains "Analysis of Heterocyclic Amines in Biological Fluids" at noon in MacNaughton 203.

The Department of Plant Agriculture hosts a seminar on "Northeast Organic Network: Enhancing Research and Education in Organic Agricultural Systems of the Northeast United States" Nov. 14 at 8:30 a.m. in Axelrod 117. Speakers are Brian Caldwell of the Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York and Anu Rangarajan of Cornell University.

Corinne Van Kampen of McMaster University presents "IBD: An Immunological Labyrinth" in the Department of Pathobiology seminar series Nov. 14 at 2 p.m. in OVC 171S.

The international development series features Prof. Alice Hovorka, Geography, discussing "Chicks and the City: Gendered Urban Agriculture in Botswana" Nov. 14 at 3 p.m. in MacLachlan 101.

Next up in the Department of Zoology seminar series Nov. 14 is Elizabeth Jockusch of the University of Connecticut exploring "How Misleading Are Mitochondrial Trees? A Case Study From Slender Salamanders." On Nov. 17, Glenn Wagner of the University of British Columbia will discuss "Sub-Lethal Impacts of Sea Lice on Salmon Physiology." On Nov. 21, Adam Chippindale of Queen's University considers "The Gender Load: Sex, Genes, Irreconcilable Differences." The talks begin at 3:30 p.m. in Axelrod 265A.

The Department of Plant Agriculture presents Alan Drysdale of Florida's Kennedy Space Center speaking on "Economics of Plants in Space" Nov. 17 at 3 p.m. in Graham Hall 3301.

The College of Arts "Research in Progress" seminar series features Prof. Ellen Waterman, Fine Art and Music, discussing "Sounds Provocative: Experimental Music Performance in Canada" Nov. 19 at 4 p.m. in MacKinnon 103.

## TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services' training and development opportunities for faculty and instructional staff continue with "Critical Reflection Learning Community" Nov. 10, "Faculty Forum: Teaching in Rozanski Hall" Nov. 10, "Applying the Principles of Universal Instructional Design" Nov. 13, "New Faculty Luncheon: Developing Effective Course Outlines" Nov. 13 and a PowerPoint clinic Nov. 20. Details and online registration for all TSS events are found on the website [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca).

## THEATRE

The drama program's production of *Lola Starr Builds Her Dream Home*, written and directed by Prof. Sky Gilbert, continues until Nov. 8 at the George Luscombe Theatre. Performances run nightly at 8 p.m., with a 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday. Tickets are \$7 and \$9 at the door.

## THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Heather Mair of the School of Rural Extension Studies, a PhD candidate in the rural studies program, is Nov. 14 at 3 p.m. in Landscape Architecture 12S. The thesis is "Tourism as a Rural Response to Global Restructuring." The adviser is Prof. Don Reid.

The final examination of Jun Ren, a PhD candidate in the Department of Pathobiology, is Nov. 17 at 9:30 a.m. in OVC 1713. The thesis is "Function and Regulation of Pathogenicity Island Genes on the *Rhodococcus equi* Virulence Plasmid." The adviser is Prof. John Prescott.

The final examination of PhD candidate Kerri Hogg, Psychology, is Nov. 21 at 1 p.m. in UC 441. The thesis is "Asking the Experts: An Examination of Relational and Overt Aggression Using Child Reports." The adviser is Prof. Brian Earn.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Guelph Chamber Choir launches its 2003/2004 season with "Venetian Splendour" Nov. 22 at 8 p.m. Conducted by Gerald Neufeld, the choir will perform Renaissance and baroque music accompanied by an orchestra on period instruments. For tickets, call 763-3000.

McCrae House marks Remembrance Week with the return of the Guelph Amateur Radio Club, which will be sending and receiving remembrance messages from 1 to 5 p.m. until Nov. 11.

Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis is offering a workshop on loneliness Nov. 12 from 1 to 4 p.m. at 18 Norwich St. E. To register, call 823-5806, Ext. 33.

Harcourt Memorial United Church presents *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* Nov. 27 to 29 at 7:30 p.m. For tickets, call 824-4177.

The Guelph Concert Band, directed by Colin Clarke, presents "War and Peace: Music of the Great Wars" Nov. 16 at 7:30 p.m. at Church of Our Lady. Tickets are available at the door or from the River Run Centre.

An evening of belly dancing will be presented Nov. 15 at 8 p.m. at the Guelph Youth Music Centre. A portion of the event's proceeds will benefit Epilepsy Ontario of Wellington-Waterloo. For ticket information, call 760-2837.

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NOVEMBER 19, 2003  
VOLUME 47, No. 18

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Maclean's magazine has named OAC student Greg Dietrich, pictured here on his family's farm in Mildmay, a Canadian 'leader-in-waiting' for his efforts to educate his community after the Walkerton water tragedy and for his commitment to the future of agriculture.

PHOTO BY PETER BREGG, MACLEAN'S

## A Face of the Future

Maclean's recognizes Canadians under 30 who will be the leaders of tomorrow

OAC STUDENT Greg Dietrich was never one of those kids who hesitated when adults asked: "What do you want to be when you grow up?"

"I was leading cows around since I could walk, and I've always admired them," says Dietrich, whose favourite present on his 10th birthday was the book *Who's Who of Dairy Cattle*.

Growing up on a dairy farm in the small town of Mildmay, a few miles from Walkerton, he always knew his future would include cattle and agriculture in some form.

But what he couldn't predict was that his life plans would land him in the pages of a national magazine. Maclean's recently named Dietrich one of the country's "leaders-in-waiting" as part of a feature on people under 30 who are the future faces of Canada. He was selected as one of eight "do-gooders" for his efforts to educate his community after the Walkerton water tragedy and for his commitment to the future of agriculture.

"It was all a big surprise and an

incredible honour," says Dietrich, who was nominated by 4-H Canada, which he's been involved with since elementary school. "I was told that 4-H had put my name forward and I was very grateful, but I wasn't expecting anything because I knew a lot of people were nominated."

Even after a Maclean's photographer came out to his family's farm and took a photo of him sitting next to a huge bale of hay, Dietrich still didn't think anything of it. "I never really knew what was going on until the issue actually came out." He was even more surprised when people outside his family took notice and offered congratulations.

After the issue was published, Dietrich was contacted by the CBC Radio program *Sounds Like Canada* and asked to take part in a program featuring students across the country talking about the role youth will play in the future of agriculture.

"I really love participating in things like that," he says. "I think knowledge is really the key to getting people to understand the importance of agriculture. There are defi-

nately going to be challenges in the future, such as food shortages and problems with water quality. It's important that people be aware that it's happening and know they have a role to play."

Dietrich takes his self-assigned role as educator and advocate very seriously. That sense of responsibility is something he developed as a child. While he was growing up, everyone in his family (he has two brothers and three sisters) did their share.

"It was a family farm, and there were lots of chores. Everyone got involved and helped. It was a good experience."

He began working with cows in earnest when he was about five, showing in fairs and joining 4-H as soon as he was old enough. He took over his family's breeding program when he was still in his teens. "I've always been interested in genetics — hair colour, eye colour, why we are who we are."

That interest turned into fascination when a sole red Holstein was

Continued on page 14

## Maclean's Ranks Guelph No. 1 Again

Sense of community is what makes U of G unique

WHAT MAKES U of G the number one comprehensive university in Canada? Maclean's magazine bestowed the distinction on Guelph Nov. 10 in its annual rankings issue, citing such things as the University's innovative programs, accessible faculty and unique undergraduate research opportunities. Flip through the magazine and you'll see charts and categories, weighting scales and surveys — the methodology behind the top rating. Add up the columns, multiply and divide this by that, and you come up with the score that gave U of G its first-place finish, its third number one Maclean's ranking in five years. (Guelph was also named top comprehensive university in 2002 and 1999.)

But for a less analytical answer, one need only look as far as the Bullring Nov. 13 to see how and why Guelph made it to the top. On this day, dozens of students, faculty and staff gathered in the student-run coffee house to celebrate the ranking with free coffee and cake. The gathering was hosted by the Central Student Association (CSA) as a way to celebrate the University's achievement and show off the newly reno-

vated Bullring. The administration paid for the refreshments, and the CSA set up bins to accept gifts of non-perishable food items to the Guelph Food Bank.

"We all recognize the achievement of being number one in Maclean's, and a part of what makes the University of Guelph great is the sense of responsibility towards addressing complex social issues," Andrew Langille, CSA local affairs commissioner, said in a campus bulletin that publicized the event. "That's why we have taken this opportunity to assist the Guelph Food Bank in acquiring food for people living in poverty in Guelph."

That sense of community, and the fact that the CSA hosted a celebration and invited the entire University, including the administration, is what makes U of G unique, says president Alastair Summerlee.

"We have all contributed to the values, atmosphere and mission of this institution. That's what Guelph is all about. That sense of caring makes us want to be the best."

In its ranking issue, Maclean's determines "the best" through 23

Continued on page 13

## Novel Research Projects Receive CFI Backing

Six faculty in four departments get funding

A DIGITAL MEDIA STUDIO that will allow multidisciplinary art and popular culture to intersect and a robot that will help scientists analyze bacterial populations are among five new and diverse U of G research projects that received support Nov. 3 from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI).

The announcement was made in Ottawa by CFI president David Strangway, who allocated \$24.1 million to 37 Canadian institutions. The U of G projects involve six professors in four departments and total more than \$500,000. The researchers are Profs. Patrick Boerlin, Pathobiology; Joseph Colasanti, Molecular Biology and Genetics; Dalia

Fayek, Engineering; Kim Kozzi and Dai Skuse, Fine Art and Music; and Bill Van Heyst, Engineering.

"We are very pleased to receive a CFI grant," says Skuse and Kozzi, who make up the art duo FASTWORMS and share a joint appointment at U of G. The cross-disciplinary artists work in photography, film, sculpture, performance and installation art. They incorporate sound, video, images and performance into the classroom, mixing art and popular culture. They will use their \$103,200 CFI grant for a digital media studio that will include computers, cameras, cinema displays, video projection

Continued on page 14



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## They're on the Job

As part of "Take Your Kids to Work Day" Nov. 5, OVC offered a series of activities planned by Prof. Keith Betteridge, Biomedical Sciences. Here, OVC technician Liz St. John, left, displays a tiny glass instrument used in bovine cloning to Grade 9 students Shannon Tersigni of Our Lady of Lourdes High School and Nandi Paschen, Sophie Van Doornaal and Emilie Shanks of École Secondaire Père Renée de Gallinée in Cambridge. The day's activities also included a tour of OVC, a visit to the Arkell Equine Research Station and a talk by Jane Goodall.

PHOTO BY KAREN GALLANT

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## Services Available to Help Students Cope With Stress

*Counselling Services served more than 700 students in September and October*

**I**F YOU'RE STRESSED OUT, you're certainly not alone. There's more than enough stress to go around for students these days as assignments and essays grind on and final exams near. Then there's the added pressure of dealing with roommates, paying bills and coping with the many other demands that life sends along.

If it's getting to be too much, help is available through Counselling Services in the University Centre, the Wellness Centre (part of Student Health Services) in the Powell Building, residence assistants in campus residences, and the Student Support Network and the Multi-Faith Resource Team in Raithby House.

"There are many stresses on students' lives these days, more so than ever before," says Bruno Mancini, director of Counselling and Student Development. The signs of stress can range from lack of motivation, lack of confidence and tiredness to depression and extreme anxiety.

"Students all react differently," he says. "Most responses to stress are normal and to be expected. But for some students, more serious reactions can occur, such as major depression and severe anxiety disorders, which can lead to greater dysfunctionality. These need to be

addressed and dealt with appropriately."

Counselling Services served more than 700 students in September and October, an increase of 17 per cent over last year. Mancini says that could be due to the fact that there are more students on campus this fall or that people are being more open about seeking help.

"We try to help them develop the resources, strength, insights and strategies to cope with things," he says.

Mancini sees students stressed by the struggles of academic workload, relationship issues, family difficulties, the increased competition for professional and graduate schools, and concerns about employment and debt.

"It's expensive coming to university, and parents are more involved," he says. "It used to be people went to university to find out who they are, what they're going to do. Now parents are more involved in the educational system from day one. It can be very positive and supportive, but it can be intrusive, too, in terms of expectations and the fact that students are more dependent on their parents financially."

Prof. Judith McKenzie, Political Science, reports that she is seeing

"enormous numbers" of students, especially first-year students, who are looking for help.

"Given the stresses many members of the double cohort class have been subjected to trying to get into university, this is the second year of stress they're experiencing."

Prof. Carol Dauda, Political Science, who teaches two large first-year courses, says she finds students are especially stressed if they have an exam on the first day of the exam period or if most of their exams are in the first week.

Both professors have observed that students appear to be taking their work more seriously this year, which could be attributed to the work ethic the double cohort has developed to get to university in the first place.

"I have had notably higher mid-term averages," says Dauda. "I think this is because students are really working hard. I can see this incredible push by my students, this incredible energy."

For more information about services available on campus to help students deal with stress, visit the website [www.uoguelph.ca/students.shtml](http://www.uoguelph.ca/students.shtml).

BY STACEY CURRY GUNN



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## ANDERSON LECTURE SET

The College of Biological Science presents the 2003 Roy C. Anderson Memorial Lecture in Parasitology Nov. 21 at 1 p.m. in Room 1714 of the OVC Lifetime Learning Centre. Guest speaker is Gerhard Schad of the University of Pennsylvania's School of Veterinary Medicine, a world authority on intestinal nematodes, especially hookworm disease in humans. His topic is "Neurobiology of Infection in Parasitic Nematodes." An informal reception begins at 12:30 p.m. Schad will be on campus Nov. 19 to 21 to meet with students, faculty, staff and interested members of the public. For more information, contact Prof. Patrick Woo at Ext. 53581 or pwoo@uoguelph.ca.

## GUELPH-HUMBER ART GALLERY HOSTS FIRST EXHIBITION

The University of Guelph-Humber officially opened its new art gallery Nov. 3 with a week-long exhibit of artwork by underprivileged children in Latin America. The ART WORKS! collection featured original art by children under five from Pueblo Canada's preschool art program in rural Esteli, Nicaragua. The program aims to develop children's self-esteem and social and cognitive skills. "The University of Guelph-Humber's program in early childhood studies made us an ideal location for this exhibit," says Guelph-Humber CEO David Trick. "We're very proud that this selection of children's art was the first exhibit held at our new art gallery."

## GRAY VISITS CAMPUS

Herb Gray, former deputy prime minister and now Canadian co-chair of the International Joint Commission, visited campus Nov. 13 to address a first-year environmental science class taught by graduate studies dean Isobel Heathcote and to participate in a round-table meeting with students and faculty.

## MASTER PLAN HONOURED

Du Toit Allsopp Hillier, the Toronto-based urban design, planning and landscape architecture firm that prepared U of G's new campus master plan, received a 2003 Regional Honour Award from the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects for the plan.

## Y SEEKS AWARD NOMINEES

The Guelph YMCA-YWCA is calling for nominations for the 2004 Women of Distinction Awards. They are presented in eight categories: arts and culture; business, labour, the professions and entrepreneurs; education, training and development; lifetime achievement; science, technology and environment; voluntary community humanitarian service; wellness, health and active living; and young woman of distinction (aged 16 to 24). Nomination forms are available from the Y or online at [www.guelph.org](http://www.guelph.org). The deadline for nominations is Jan. 31.

## Making a World of Difference

There is much that veterinarians can do to help developing countries, prof says

"KING" SEEMED LIKE rather a grand epithet. After all, Prof. John McDermott, Population Medicine, had only just been upgraded from a tent to a hut in a southern Sudanese village of less than 1,000 people. And in a part of the world that accorded status solely on a person's livestock head count, this Canadian veterinarian might have been considered among the lowest of the low.

"If you don't have cattle in Dinka society, you don't belong," says McDermott, recalling his first experience in Africa two decades ago as a then-fledgling veterinary graduate from U of G. As with other pastoral societies, social and kinship relations — even matters of personal honour and integrity — were interwoven with ownership of livestock. "For the Dinka, it's not a livelihood strategy, it's a vocation."

But as a veterinarian, he found that he and his wife, Brigid, also a Guelph grad, had something better: ties to the developed world that offered the prospect of economic development and hope for the Sudanese.

"Veterinarians were kings," he says, explaining that his title allowed him to ask questions and gain insights into their lives. "For me, it was fantastic. You're dealing with the most important thing in their lives."

Since then, much of that East African country has been overrun by civil war. And McDermott himself has moved on. Having begun a leave of absence from U of G in 1997 as a researcher with the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) based in Nairobi, Kenya, he was named the organization's deputy director general and research director earlier this year.

His experience in Africa has given him another insight. Besides showing him the importance of livestock in rural people's lives, vet studies have provided an entree into international development and the use of science to better the lot of developing countries, he says.

"There are so many things you can do to help people in developing countries with the skills we have as veterinarians. You can really make a difference in many countries."

McDermott shared that message with Guelph colleagues and students last month as keynote speaker at a mini-symposium on international development hosted by the Ontario Veterinary College and as this year's Schofield Memorial Lecturer. OVC established the lecture in 1970 to honour Francis Schofield, a veterinary pathologist who taught at the college from 1921 to 1955.

"It seemed fitting to tie together a speaker of John's stature and international contribution with the fact that he is an OVC graduate," says Prof. Wayne McDonnell, assistant dean, research and graduate affairs, for the college.

Growing up in Stouffville, McDermott initially planned to become a large-animal veterinarian somewhere in rural Ontario. It was while studying at Guelph that he



Prof. John McDermott

PHOTO BY HERB RAUSCHER

found windows opening on international development.

"When I was a student, I became interested in infections, disease and population medicine, rather than the clinical aspects."

After completing his DVM in 1981, he worked for a farm service clinic before heading off to Sudan on a two-year research contract funded by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. He began post-graduate work in 1984, earning an MPM from the University of California, Davis, in 1985 and a PhD from Guelph in 1990. That same year, he was appointed a faculty member in OVC.

McDermott studies infectious diseases, mostly vector-borne afflictions such as sleeping sickness. He also studies the delivery of animal health services such as vaccination programs in developing countries.

He says his administrative appointment this spring gives him a broader view of the ILRI and its research programs on three continents. "I want to ensure research is targeted toward development outcomes."

With a budget of \$28 million US and a staff of about 70 scientists and several hundred research assistants, the institute is based in Nairobi and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. A member of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, the ILRI also has offices in other African countries as well as the Philippines, China, India and Colombia.

Acknowledging that Africa particularly needs help with stark human health problems, especially HIV/AIDS, McDermott says it's also important to deal with daily survival issues in rural communities, home to three out of four Africans. The ILRI has helped highlight how important livestock is for livelihoods of the poor, he says.

One ILRI effort, for example, is focused on developing a new vaccine against East Coast fever, a parasite-borne cattle disease that costs African farmers more than \$170 million US a year in direct losses. The ILRI has sought out private-sector partners to speed up development of the vaccine, which McDermott expects will be available in about five years. "That's a lot faster than it used to be."

During the OVC mini-symposium on international development last month, several students discussing their own African research projects mentioned their ties to McDermott, either as their supervisor or adviser or as a contact for that part of the world. His students have examined everything from helping communities assess and manage natural resources to control of tsetse flies in efforts to prevent sleeping sickness in Uganda.

Prof. Andrew Peregrine, Pathobiology, says he routinely suggests that Guelph students aiming to work in East Africa put a conversation with McDermott on their "must do" list. Peregrine, who himself worked as a scientist at the predecessor institute to the ILRI, recalls that McDermott played a key role at the University of Nairobi in establishing a veterinary epidemiology teaching and research program while on faculty there before joining the ILRI.

"It showed the benefits of in-country training," says Peregrine. "They were training Kenyans in Kenya, with research projects in Kenya."

Brigid McDermott, who studied agriculture and mathematics and statistics at Guelph, has worked with her husband and the institute on various projects. Currently, she is a statistician at the University of Nairobi.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

## PEOPLE

## PAPER EARNS TOP HONOURS

Paul Hoekstra, a recent PhD graduate of the Department of Environmental Biology, has received the Best Student Paper Award for papers published in *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*, the journal of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry. This is the second year in a row he has won the award, and he is the first student to win it twice. The winning paper is titled "Enantiomer-Specific Biomagnification of A-hexachlorocyclohexane and Selected Chiral Chlordane-Related Compounds Within an Arctic Marine Food Web." Hoekstra's supervisors were Prof. Keith Solomon and Derek Muir of the National Water Research Institute in Burlington.

## ARTIST PARTICIPATES IN MICHIGAN EXHIBITION

Prof. Monica Tap, Fine Art and Music, is currently participating in the exhibition "Painting!" at Mount Pleasant University Art Gallery in Michigan. She also gave a lecture at Mount Pleasant on her work. At the end of October, Tap was a visiting artist at the University of Western Ontario, where she presented her work and conducted studio visits with graduate students.

## ART CENTRE DIRECTOR GIVES TALKS IN POLAND

Judith Nasby, director of the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre, recently gave two lectures at Warsaw University on "Spirits and Shamans" and "Inuit Autonomy in Canada and Its Influence on Art" in connection with an exhibition of Inuit art from the art centre's collection that is on display at the State Ethnographical Museum in Warsaw.

## TENNESSEE SHOW FEATURES GUELPH PROF'S WORK

Prof. John Graham, Fine Art and Music, is participating in a group show titled "Travelling Print Exhibition by Southern Graphics Council" at the Carroll Reece Museum, East Tennessee State University. He will have a solo exhibition called "Visions From the Tempest — Artist's Book" at the Malaspina Printmakers Society Gallery in Vancouver from Jan. 20 to Feb. 15.

## APPOINTMENTS

Prof. Mary Buhr has been appointed associate dean (academic) of OAC for a five-year period that began Nov. 1.

Shawn Mattson was appointed assistant professor in the Department of Clinical Studies July 1.

Bahram Gharabaghi joined the School of Engineering as an assistant professor Aug. 1.

Joe Sawada was appointed assistant professor in the Department of Computing and Information Science Aug. 1.

Lori Jones joined the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry as an assistant professor Sept. 1.

Stefan Kycia was appointed assistant professor in the Department of Physics Sept. 1.

**Editor's note:** This is part of an ongoing series designed to introduce new faculty to the University community.

## AREND BONEN

*Professor and Canada Research Chair in Metabolism and Health, Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences*

**Background:** BA, University of Western Ontario; M.Sc. and PhD, University of Illinois

**Teaching objectives:** In my graduate course, students will critically examine selected readings from the recent literature.

**Research objectives:** I am examining how selected transport proteins at the muscle membrane influence metabolism of glucose and fatty acids, and whether these proteins can be targeted to alleviate insulin resistance via exercise and nutrition.

## SCOTT COLWELL

*Assistant professor, Department of Marketing and Consumer Studies*

**Background:** AGD and MBA (management), Athabasca University; PGdip (research methods) and PhD (marketing), University of Bradford, United Kingdom

the managerial application of specific theories.

**Research objectives:** My goal is to continue my current path of researching inter- and intraorganizational relationships through a variety of methods. I also intend to continue studying issues in research philosophy and methodology.

organize and participate in learning seminars geared to faculty, grad students and senior undergraduates.

**Research objectives:** My specific research interests are in the fields of operator algebras, quantum information theory and operator theory. My research consists mainly of theoretical mathematics, and I am par-

**Background:** B.V.Sc., University of Melbourne; MVCS, University of Sydney; Fellow of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists in Small-Animal Surgery

**Teaching objectives:** I would like to increase the theoretical and clinical teaching of the principles of surgical oncology because the treatment of cancers in animals, as in humans, is becoming increasingly important in veterinary practice. A working knowledge of the diagnostic and treatment options (medicine, surgery and radiation) is essential for the optimum management of animals with cancer.

**Research objectives:** My principal research interest is the medical and surgical management of musculoskeletal tumours. Specific areas of interest include neoadjuvant chemotherapy, the prognostic importance of tumour levels of vascular endothelial growth factor, and alternative methods of limb sparing surgery.



Arend Bonen



Elena Choleris



Scott Colwell



David Kribs



Julius Liptak



Miana Plesca

## ELENA CHOLERIS

*Assistant professor, Department of Psychology*

**Background:** PhD (neuroscience), University of Parma, Italy

**Teaching objectives:** My main challenge is teaching biology to students in the psychology stream. I use PowerPoint with lots of figures and examples.

**Research objectives:** I study social learning in small rodents (mice and rats), whereby one individual acquires new adaptive information from another. My main objective is to understand the neurobiological bases of social learning, particularly as it relates to social learning of food preferences and how this affects diet selection. To this end, I will use behavioural, pharmacological and molecular/genetics techniques.

**Teaching objectives:** My goal is to balance theory content with relevant and up-to-date managerial application. I plan to do this by matching theory learned during classes to carefully chosen high-profile cases that will allow students to explore

## DAVID KRIBS

*Assistant professor, Department of Mathematics and Statistics*

**Background:** B.Sc., University of Western Ontario; M.Math. and PhD, University of Waterloo

**Teaching objectives:** I plan to

particularly interested in mathematics with physical connections.

## JULIUS LIPTAK

*Assistant professor, Department of Clinical Studies*

## MIANA PLESCA

*Assistant professor, Department of Economics*

**Background:** B.Sc., Technical University of Cluj, Romania; MA, Georgetown University; PhD, University of Western Ontario

**Teaching objectives:** I plan to involve students in mini-research projects. In addition, students will have to consult supplementary material and data on the Internet. In the classroom, I plan to use slide show presentations.

**Research objectives:** I am interested in labour markets. I study the effects of various socio-economic programs such as retraining on individuals who participate in those programs and on the economy as a whole.

# Engineers, Vets Take Joint Look at Horse Knees

*Veterinary teaching module will give students a 3-D view of equine injuries to aid in diagnosis*

**PROFS. LUDOVIC BOURÉ**, Clinical Studies, Jeff Thomason, Biomedical Sciences, and John Runciman, Engineering, have joined forces to develop a novel veterinary teaching module designed to give students a three-dimensional virtual look at a horse's knee.

Equine knee ailments are a common and costly affliction, says Bouré, who studies laparoscopy and minimally invasive techniques in large-animal surgery. "It's a joint that gets a lot of injury. It's frequently injured in racing horses."

Yet those injuries are notoriously difficult to diagnose correctly. Holding a skeletal knee, Bouré points out the intricately detailed grouping of small bones. The problem is compounded for veterinary students learning to read a two-dimensional X-ray: Is that hairline a fracture or just a shadow?

The Guelph team's answer: Why not model that 3-D puzzle in three dimensions? And rather than stop at the bones, why not model the sur-

rounding tissues all the way to the skin?

Working with Victor Sprenger, a master's student in biological engineering, the researchers are developing just such a 3-D computer model, one that Bouré plans to use as a module in teaching surgical anatomy and arthroscopic principles to veterinary students.

Work on the module began in 2002 with a two-year \$100,000 grant from CANARIE. By fall 2004, the module will be used along with conventional diagnostic images to help students learn to pinpoint ailments accurately, Bouré says. Beyond that, the 3-D computer model might help in surgical training or be used by vets in planning arthroscopic surgery.

He believes building images and simulations of joint injuries is less a clinical problem than an engineering challenge. For his part, Runciman says biological engineers need to have "a little piece of the clinician inside us" to understand the nature of problems like this one. "That's why

these collaborative projects work so well."

He and other biomechanical engineers at Guelph have worked with faculty in OVC and the Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences on a number of studies.

In the current project, Sprenger is designing the 3-D computer module, including integrating the structures to enable a user to virtually dissect a horse's knee joint. Also involved are University of Montreal professor André Desrochers and Montreal 3-D artist Félix Roy, who will use colour and texture to make the image surfaces more realistic. (The software for the project was also used to produce animations for the movie *The Lord of the Rings*.)

On the screen of Sprenger's laptop, a gold-tinted 3-D image shows the joint's bones and ligaments down to a resolution of half a millimetre. He built that image by marrying MRI data acquired at the Lawson Institute in London with information from a technique developed by

the Mississauga firm Applied Precision and used mostly by carmakers to provide co-ordinates of millions of points in space down to tenths of millimetres.

Called polarized white light scanning, the technique gave the Guelph researchers a picture of the surface contours of the joint and enabled them to map the motion of individual bones as well as cartilage and ligaments. Undergraduate engineering student Mark Kwiesinski helped process the MRI images and scanning data to pull out useful 3-D information.

They ended up with more data than needed. "It has to look realistic, but it doesn't have to be too realistic," says Sprenger.

He notes that no surgical simulations exist for equine knees. "Surgical simulators for human knees were one of the first to be developed because arthroscopic surgery on that joint is so common."

As an undergraduate, he worked on 3-D motion analysis in

Runciman's biomechanical engineering design course, intended to give students a look at the science of medical implants and tools. Sprenger says that work gave him even greater appreciation of the intricacies of biomechanics, especially those of the human body — "the greatest engineering marvel of all."

He's intimately acquainted with the ability of the body to withstand various forces as a former two-time All-Canadian wrestler. On the way to winning the Canadian university championships in 1999 and silver in 2001, he earned his own share of injuries, including torn ligaments in his ankles and shoulders.

Sprenger planned to become a doctor when he entered U of G in 1996 as a President's Scholar. Drawn instead to engineering, he is combining both interests in biological engineering. Glancing at the image on his screen, he says this project has given him a different view of biomechanics. "It's an eye-opener."

BY ANDREW VOWLES

# Exotic Beetles Put Ontario Trees at Risk

Two tiny Asian insects could have huge impact on the environment in North America

TREES in SOUTHERN Ontario are in danger, says Prof. Gard Otis, Environmental Biology. Ash, maple, birch, willow, elm and fruit trees are all at risk because of two exotic beetle species that have made their way to North America, he says.

One of the pests, the Asian longhorned beetle, was recently discovered in Toronto, and it's hoped the insect can be contained to a small region of that city, says Otis. But another Asian beetle, the emerald ash borer, has already killed thousands of ash trees in the Windsor area.

Working with graduate student Nicole McKenzie, Otis is helping to detect and contain emerald ash borers before they spread across the country.

"When I heard about the borer, I saw it as a research opportunity," he says. "I was lucky and got linked with Canadian Forest Service researchers who are spearheading a number of projects to understand everything we can about the beetle."

Most people barely notice dead trees, let alone take the time to stop and look at what may have killed them. That's why both species went undetected for several years.

"For both these beetles, until the adults emerge and there is an exit hole in the tree or trees are dying in large numbers, there is little evidence they are infested," says Otis. Only if you look closely for symptoms and peel back bark will you see their mark.

"The discovery of the Asian longhorned beetle in Toronto came as a huge surprise," he says.

One of the people called on to help diagnose the bug during the initial outbreak was Otis's colleague Prof. Steve Marshall, who has overseen Guelph's insect collection since 1982.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is now co-ordinating a survey of the areas infested in Toronto. "If the beetles get into the nearby forests along the Humber River, it's going to be really hard to stop them or detect them," Otis says.

He notes that the current development stage of the pests is buying

the CFIA some time. "Luckily, the beetles are done flying for the year. The CFIA has the winter to complete the survey and figure out what to do."

There are only two ways to destroy the beetle: cut, chip and burn affected trees, or inject the trees with insecticides that kill the beetle larvae as they feed. Otis says the city of Chicago has been successful in containing the beetle through cutting and chipping trees, but new infestations continue to be found around New York City.

It's vital to find a solution to the problem before spring, when adult beetles emerge from trees and take flight, says Otis. "Because they're not very host-specific, longhorned beetles could have a big impact. The effects on shade trees, forests and the maple syrup industry could be devastating."

In contrast to the relatively slow decline of trees attacked by the longhorned beetle, trees infested with the emerald ash beetle have been dying rapidly in Windsor and southeastern Michigan.

"Trees in Windsor that were healthy in spring were dead by fall," Otis says.

There has been a general decline in ash trees for a number of years, referred to as "ash decline." It was only in May 2002 that unusual D-shaped holes were noticed in dead ash trees in Michigan.

"As soon as inspectors started looking under the bark, extensive galleries, distinctive larvae and small bright green beetles about one centimetre long were found," says Otis. "They put two and two together and realized that these insects were at least partly involved in what was affecting ashes."

An estimated six to 10 million trees in Michigan have died as a result of this beetle. Many thousands of trees in Essex County have died as well.

"By fall, it's difficult to tell a live ash from a dead ash, so surveying them is really quite difficult and not very efficient," says Otis. "Inspectors look for holes, swellings and cracks



Prof. Gard Otis holds a piece of bark from an ash tree that has been infested by the emerald ash borer. PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

on the bark as well as crown dieback. If you find the distinctive galleries under the bark or D-shaped holes, then the presence of the emerald ash beetle is confirmed."

One focus of his research has been the ash beetle's mating behaviour.

"If we knew there was a sex attractant, then it might be possible to develop lures for more efficient detection and survey. Although our observations failed to provide evidence of sex pheromones, they suggest that we may be able to use green decoys to attract beetles to sticky traps."

Left to their own devices, neither of the Asian beetles disperses very rapidly. The biggest problem is their almost instantaneous dispersal

through humans moving firewood. Despite signs on the 401 and at border points stating that it's illegal to import firewood into Ontario or remove it from a quarantine zone, people are still moving firewood. On the 2003 Victoria Day weekend, more than 300 people were stopped from bringing firewood into just three provincial parks in southwestern Ontario, says Otis.

"If you translate that to the number of people who moved firewood to their cottages and other parks, I think it's pretty hard to believe that there are no outlier populations far from Windsor."

Although he believes Canada is being proactive in its fight against these pests, he predicts that in one to

two years, emerald ash borers will be found throughout much of Ontario as they come across the border from heavily infested counties in Michigan and as people inadvertently transport them on firewood.

Otis says that by killing ash trees, these beetles could have a huge impact on the environment. "Ashes are very important along streams and as a food source for wildlife. Right now, it's unclear how the loss of ashes will filter down through the system."

As with the destruction caused by Dutch elm disease and the Asian blight fungus that wiped out American chestnut trees, U of G researchers will likely play a role in the recovery of trees. Henry Kock, the Arboretum's interpretive horticulturist, has been leading an elm recovery project since 1998. With the public's assistance, he's found more than 100 surviving mature white elms in Ontario and has used them to create a living gene bank. Some of the seedlings from this population are likely to exhibit resistance to Dutch elm disease.

Prof. Brian Husband, Botany, and Greg Boland, Environmental Biology, have conducted a survey to locate chestnut trees growing in southern Ontario as part of the World Wildlife Fund's chestnut recovery program.

"We hope to find patterns where trees are healthier in certain areas than others to determine how to bring the chestnuts back to past levels," Husband says.

As for the beetle pests, other than not moving firewood, there's little that can be done to contain them, says Otis. He adds, however, that researchers in China are now searching for biological agents to control the bugs.

"To find effective biological control agents, you go to the area where the insect came from to see what organisms are keeping things in check. Once a pest species has been established and eradication is impossible, biological controls offer the best permanent solution."

BY RACHELLE COOPER

## Salamander Offers Clues About State of Ecosystems

Learning how to preserve 'indicator' amphibians can help in saving other plants and animals in similar environments, says zoologist

THE JEFFERSON SALAMANDER, a threatened species known for its slippery skin and extremely long toes, is providing U of G researchers with important clues about the state of Ontario's ecosystems. In fact, it may even help identify species that could be next on the endangered list.

Prof. Jim Bogart, Zoology, says the Jefferson salamander is an "indicator" species. Its conditions or quality of life mirror the conditions of other species or the environment at large. Its presence signifies that the environment is suitable for a large number of organisms that require an uncontaminated and undisturbed mixed forest region, he says.

But something is killing the North American amphibian in certain regions, placing it on the threatened species list of the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Because it's an indicator species, whatever is harming the Jefferson is probably killing off other animals, too, Bogart says.

"The Jefferson can serve as a warning for environmental health. Learning how to preserve it can help us preserve many other plants and animals that live in similar environments."

Bogart is a member of the federal Jefferson salamander recovery team, which involves the Canadian Wild-

life Service of Environment Canada and Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR). He's been pinpointing locations where Jefferson populations have been found for the past two decades as part of a preservation effort.

Normally, it's easy to track salamanders because they're long-lived and can be monitored throughout their lifetime. But the Jefferson is different, says Bogart. It always lives with polyploid females — females with more than two sets of chromosomes that are a "hybrid" of the "pure" species, *Ambystoma jeffersonianum*. It's difficult to distinguish the pure species from the hy-

brid, so genetic analysis is necessary for proper identification, he says.

Learning which ponds the salamanders use for reproduction will make it easier to identify areas that need to be preserved, adds Bogart. Salamanders move from their "home" pond to underground areas after a very short breeding season, which means it may be necessary to preserve land up to one kilometre in radius from their breeding ponds.

Bogart is making maps of the Jefferson's habitats — including areas across southern Ontario such as the Niagara Escarpment, Haldimand-Norfolk County and small areas in York Region, and hopes they will be

available by 2005. He is also completing a lengthy investigation of the salamander throughout its natural range from New England through Indiana and from Ontario to Kentucky.

"The goal is to know exactly where these salamanders are living," he says. "Then we can justify legislation to protect these areas."

His research is being sponsored by the OMNR, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council and the Endangered Species Recovery Fund of World Wildlife Fund Canada.

BY HILARY EDMONDSON  
SPARK PROGRAM

# One Step Ahead

OVC scientist contributes to SARS research



Prof. Dongwan Yoo is interested in studying how coronaviruses overcome the body's normal immune response. PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

WHEN CASES of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) were reported this spring, Prof. Dongwan Yoo, Pathobiology, was in an advantageous position to contribute to knowledge about this severe and contagious virus.

In his OVC laboratory, Yoo had been studying the porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) virus, which causes abortions and respiratory problems in pigs. Both SARS and PRRS are coronaviruses, so they share the same genetic organization and strategies for multiplying in host cells.

By the end of June, Yoo had obtained the SARS coronavirus DNA from the Genomics Institute of Singapore. (The virus itself can't be handled at OVC because it requires stricter biocontainment facilities than currently exist at the college.) His lab performed the same types of analysis they'd been doing on the PRRS virus — identifying and isolating the virus's proteins, then labelling certain proteins in cell cultures with different colours, so their movements in cells could be tracked using a confocal microscope.

An expert on coronaviruses, Yoo is interested in investigating how the SARS virus and coronaviruses in general overcome the body's normal immune response. His work on the PRRS virus had revealed that a viral protein called capsid may be responsible for impairing an infected pig's immune system.

On infecting a cell, viral proteins typically inhabit the cell's cytoplasm, replicating themselves and attacking the host cell.

"At that point, it's basically a fight between the host and the virus," says Yoo.

But in the case of PRRS, he found that the capsid protein migrates to the nucleus of infected cells rather than the cytoplasm and impairs the host's ability to fight off the virus.

His study of the SARS virus found that it also contained a capsid protein, which acts in the same way it did in his studies of the PRRS virus — impairing the host's defence mechanism. Further studies showed

that the capsid protein of both SARS and PRRS viruses binds to the same cellular proteins and exhibits other similar characteristics.

"Because of similar phenomena and binding capabilities, we can hypothesize that SARS and PRRS share a very similar strategy in impairing the host immune system," says Yoo.

After a whirlwind of lab work, his research group completed their investigations of the SARS virus in the middle of October and are now preparing to publish their findings. His future work will once again be focused on the PRRS virus, although he says his findings will likely be applicable to SARS as well.

PRRS, he notes, is much easier to work with. Because it's a pig pathogen and doesn't infect people, it doesn't require the same precautions as SARS. But he says his work will continue to shed light on the SARS virus.

"We can understand a lot about SARS from understanding PRRS."

In addition, PRRS is recognized as a threatening disease in its own right since it emerged more than 10 years ago. Even when a pig's immune system successfully combats the virus, it remains in the pig's body for six months and can spread to others.

"It's possible for a whole herd of pigs to be wiped out by this virus," says Yoo. "It can have huge economic implications."

He hopes his work will lead to the development of a vaccine that would prevent PRRS infections.

"We need to investigate the mechanism this virus uses to modify the host cell nucleus," he says. "Our strategy is, if we can identify the function of this protein exactly, we can begin to identify a vaccine that would prevent the protein from impairing the immune response."

During this year's SARS outbreak, more than 8,000 people worldwide became sick, and at least 700 died of the disease, according to the World Health Organization. Canada saw 251 cases of the illness, including 43 fatalities.

BY KAREN GALLANT, OVC

# An Appeal From the Heart

REPRESENTATIVES FROM SEVERAL U of G employee groups speak with one voice in a written statement that encourages support for the Guelph and Wellington United Way campaign. Those signing the statement are Marg Bordinon, Ontario Nurses' Association; Shari Dorr, Professional Staff Association; Art Hill, U of G Faculty Association; Julie Hutchins, Exempt Group; and Serge Tremblay, College and Academic Research Group.

Their message begins with the 2003 United Way campaign theme: "Caring Together We Grow."

"This year's theme challenges each of us to examine the things that we can do, individually and collectively, to grow a caring community."

"This is our community. We want to tell you about some of the people who live in it and who need our help. We want you to know why it is important for you to be involved — to be part of the circle of giving and caring, so that everyone in our community can grow together."

"This week, a family moved to Guelph in search of a better opportunity. Even though a parent is working, the family cannot make ends meet. They are currently living in crowded conditions, at risk of eviction and struggling to put food on the table. Also this week, a dying woman has a Hospice volunteer to help her through the final stage of her life's journey."

"United Way Community Services of Guelph and Wellington plays an important role in making Guelph

and Wellington such a wonderful place to live. It supports 105 programs within 46 agencies that provide help in our community, services that will benefit our faculty, staff, students and retirees at all ages and stages of life."

"Last year, the University of Guelph's United Way campaign raised \$280,678 from donations made by the staff, faculty, retirees and students."

"We need your support again this year to continue the caring in our community. We believe in the power of one person. Each donation of money and time makes a difference. We believe in the power of community — the impact we have when we work together to meet this year's \$285,000 goal. Most of all, we believe the United Way is in the best position to turn our contributions into actions that change people's lives and strengthen our community."

"We invite you to be part of the United Way by making a commitment to this year's United Way campaign. Together, we can make a difference."

Contributions can be made through payroll deduction, credit card, cash or cheque. A printable pledge form is available at [www.uoguelph.ca/unitedway](http://www.uoguelph.ca/unitedway).

The campus campaign ends Nov. 30. Pledge forms received by that date are automatically entered in a grand-prize incentive draw Dec. 1 for a Toronto weekend theatre package donated by Goliger's TravelPlus in Guelph.

# Zoologist to Promote Research Collaboration

College of Biological Science names first associate dean of research

"INTEGRATION" will be the watchword for Prof. Glen Van Der Kraak, Zoology, who began a new job this month as the inaugural associate dean of research for the College of Biological Science.

The new position was created largely to promote greater research collaboration and integration of graduate studies in the college's five departments — Botany, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences, Microbiology, Molecular Biology and Genetics, and Zoology — and with other colleges at U of G.

"Science has become much more integrative in terms of trying to look at a common set of problems but from different perspectives," says Van Der Kraak, a 16-year member of the Department of Zoology. "Now there's more of a move to interdisciplinary projects, a team-based approach to doing science."

Formerly department chair, he took up his new post Nov. 1.

CBS dean Michael Emes says the new position reflects the increasingly collaborative and interdisciplinary nature of research in the biological sciences. Although that role has long been recognized on the teaching side through an associate dean for the B.Sc. programs, he says, "there are tremendous opportunities to take research at Guelph to another level by identifying areas of strength and building cognate groupings unified by a common theme."

On a wider scale, that theme is echoed in planning for the new science complex, which will incorporate parts of not just CBS but the College of Physical and Engineering Science as well.

The associate dean will also help develop the college's research strategy. That will be no small task, as the face of scientific inquiry in CBS will



Prof. Glen Van Der Kraak

change during the next decade with an expected bulge of faculty retirements and continued active recruitment of new biological sciences faculty. The college currently has about 85 faculty members; plans call for a total of about 100 professors in the next year or two, after projected retirements.

The new position will also help lead funding applications for major research programs, a key function amid stiffening competition for science dollars against other universities and research institutions. CBS has an annual research operating budget of about \$17.5 million a year.

Another important function will be to co-ordinate graduate education and recruitment for the college. CBS graduate students — currently numbering 106 PhD candidates and 233 master's students — are critical to research in the college, Emes says.

He says it's important to further improve graduate recruitment and to ensure that prospective students know about the full range of research opportunities across the college. For example, a new molecular biology student might look not just within the Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics but also within

other departments as cellular and molecular biology broadens across the life sciences.

Integration makes sense to botany PhD candidate George Bassel, particularly if it helps bring together plant ecologists and physiologists. Bassel, who is studying regulation of seed germination, says: "Just being in a group with other physiologists and molecular biologists could create synergy."

Van Der Kraak plans to develop a CBS graduate symposium, allowing students across the college to meet and compare research projects.

Pointing to plans for administrative realignment in the college and construction of the new science complex, he says: "It's an exciting time from a research and graduate student perspective."

He was one of three people shortlisted for the associate dean position from a slate of candidates. "He will develop clear, consensus-driven ideas," says Emes. "We felt Glen encompassed all the things that mattered to us."

Van Der Kraak has chaired an integrative animal biology panel, one of the grant selection committees for the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council. He is currently a member of a major panel for the American Environmental Protection Agency on endocrine screening and testing.

A PhD graduate of the University of British Columbia, he was appointed chair of zoology in 2000. Earlier, he was director of the Axelrod Institute of Ichthyology. His own research group, including seven graduate students, studies the effects of environmental contaminants on fish reproductive biology.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

# Filling in the Tapestry of Africa

*Geographer challenges the pervasive gloom-and-doom portrayals of life in Africa*

**S**HOW Prof. Alice Hovorka, Geography, a stereotype, and she'll probably find a way to break it. She's done so a couple of times already in her burgeoning research career, by challenging the pervasive gloom-and-doom portrayals of life in Africa.

Hovorka first went to Africa in her early 20s, determined to find out for herself what it was like. She says her parents were for a long time concerned about her choice of destination because they knew only CNN's version of unrelenting chaos. "Africa was uncharted territory for our family."

That first visit, a university field trip to study regional issues in southern Africa, introduced her to a place that was both complex and fascinating. And it kept her coming back, eventually to conduct research that is bringing to light and nurturing some of Africa's success stories.

"There are so many sides to Africa that it's frustrating there's only one stereotype of violence and poverty and absolute desolation that's put forward through the media," Hovorka says. "There are a multitude of different kinds of people, different classes and different ethnicities. It isn't as simple as people portray it."

In her Hutt Building office, the walls are decorated with photos that reveal images of the Africa she has come to know and the people she wants to help through her research on the interaction between people and urban environments.

The "feminist geographer" came to U of G in January. "I'm very much into action-oriented research," she says. "I want to use this knowledge to facilitate just and sustainable urban development."

Hovorka found her research niche after working and travelling in a number of southern African countries in the mid-1990s. The Republic of Botswana particularly captivated



Prof. Alice Hovorka's office is decorated with reminders of southern Africa, including this wall hanging.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

her because there she found a welcome antidote to the negativity and "bad rap" the continent as a whole had acquired.

The country is "touted as the political and economic gem of Africa," she says, explaining that its reliance on diamond mining has given it one of the strongest economies in Africa. Furthermore, she adds, the Botswana government channels those profits into strong social programs.

"With Botswana, I thought it would be interesting to see a different kind of case study, one that highlights the possibilities."

She spent a year in the country's capital, Gaborone, starting in October 2000, as part of her PhD program at Clark University in Worcester, Mass.

Hovorka met and interviewed men and women in and around Gaborone who produce everything from chickens and eggs to vegetables, dairy products, pork and beef.

Their work — what academics call "urban agriculture" — intrigued her because it contradicted yet another stereotype.

The prevailing view of the international development community, she says, is that urban agriculture is a survival strategy used by the poor in cities because they can't afford the food in grocery stores. In Botswana, however, she found something different going on.

"Urban agriculture wasn't a survival strategy of the poor. It was an entrepreneurial strategy contributing to employment generation, agricultural production and economic diversification. Policies were being discussed around the survival strategy concept, and no one was looking at its potential as an entrepreneurial strategy."

When Hovorka started her work in Gaborone, the local government considered urban agriculture a survival strategy, something people did

in their backyards. She developed governmental contacts in the Ministry of Agriculture and Department of Town and Regional Planning and shared her findings with them.

In a country that imports 90 per cent of its food from South Africa, Hovorka found that 110 entrepreneurs were growing or trying to produce food for the local market.

"It meant local business development and diversification away from diamond mining. It was something that could be taken advantage of and supported and encouraged more."

To that end, she worked with a government counterpart to co-ordinate a national workshop on urban agriculture in May 2001.

The Botswana government had been promoting business development, but had not really promoted urban agriculture, which was mainly an "unconscious outgrowth of urbanization trends," says Hovorka.

"Because it hasn't been recog-

nized fully, there are a number of things working against people in the sector. Commercial agriculture systems aren't very well-developed, and there's not a lot of technical support or information on how to make a go of it."

Her urban agriculture research also provided an opportunity to see whether gender affected how people engaged in the sector. She concluded it does.

"Even though men and women have opportunities to enter the sector, women are mainly in broiler production (chicken meat). Women are stuck in the smaller-scale operations; they don't have the resources or the space to expand. As a result, the quantity and type of production are affected. The sector as a whole is marginalized, and women have a double burden."

Hovorka describes the Botswana government as "forward-thinking and progressive." The workshop she started has become an annual undertaking for the government, and "they're really trying to work out a strategy of how to support and develop urban agriculture in the city."

She plans to return to Gaborone next summer for three months to re-interview the people in her study to see how they're doing three years later and to explore urban entrepreneurship more broadly. It will be the next step in a longer-term project on gendered urbanization in southern Africa.

"I'm interested in the transformation from rural to urban and in understanding how men and women's societal roles and responsibilities and opportunities and constraints are affected."

Master's student Erin Kiley will go to Botswana with her next summer to work on the HIV/AIDS issue, "something that's incredibly crucial right now in that country," Hovorka says.

BY STACEY CURRY GUNN

## Edible Vaccine Research Gets U.S. Support

*Guelph team hopes to make inoculating cattle as stress-free as chewing cud*

**A** FOUR-YEAR \$600,000 US award will help a trio of Guelph researchers refine a promising "edible vaccine" against a debilitating and costly cattle disease.

Prof. Reggie Lo, Microbiology, Patricia Shewen, Pathobiology, and Judith Strommer, Plant Agriculture, will use the funding to develop a feed derivative they hope will make inoculating cattle as stress-free as chewing cud. Earlier this year, they demonstrated that clover containing the bacterial gene for a particular antigen can produce antibodies against the disease in cattle.

The new funding was approved in a research contract this summer with Dow AgroSciences, a pest management and biotechnology company based in Indianapolis. The company hopes to use transgenic

plants to produce vaccines.

Dow is also supporting a master's student on the project through a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council Industrial Postgraduate Scholarship.

"It's very nice to have somebody notice what we've been doing," says Lo, who has been working with Shewen for two decades.

The vaccine would be used to protect cattle against *Mannheimia haemolytica*, a bacterium that normally lives in the upper respiratory tract but can cause pneumonia in the lungs and lower respiratory tract. Bovine pneumonic pasteurellosis, or shipping fever, is a major cause of sickness, death and economic loss in feedlot cattle.

An edible vaccine would be designed to produce an immune re-

sponse by taking advantage of the ruminant's practice of bringing up food as cud, effectively bringing the vaccine into direct contact with the tonsils. Shewen says that's a better route than trying to develop a vaccine able to survive the journey through the cow's rumen and stomach to deliver immunity in the intestine.

Shewen, who earlier developed an injectable vaccine, says it would be less labour-intensive to deliver an edible version in modified cattle feed and far less stressful for the animals.

What was needed was a form of feed altered to contain the vaccine.

"The work has been hypothesis-testing," says Strommer, the plant molecular biologist in the project. "Can we produce the antigens at reasonable levels in forages? Can they

trigger an effective immune response in the tonsil through feed? It's been exciting work for all of us."

Two years ago, the research group — including research associates Doug Hodgins, Raymond Lee and Asma Ziauddin — showed that the bacterial construct was being expressed in clover. Equally important, they found that the antigen, a truncated leukotoxin, was stable even in dried plant material. Lo says that means the vaccine need not be refrigerated and can be readily mixed with regular cattle feed.

Following a series of feeding tests with cattle over the past two years, the group got a low-level response against the bacterial antigen this summer, suggesting the cows were producing antibodies in response to the altered feed.

During the next four years, they plan to test three other antigens. That would effectively yield four lines of transgenic feed for Dow to investigate further.

"We're not making a product — we're providing proof of concept," says Strommer.

Elsewhere, other researchers are studying the use of edible vaccines against other diseases, mostly in pigs, poultry and other monogastric animals. The U of G scientists say they believe they're the only group working on altered forage feed in ruminants. Earlier funding for their project came from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the Ontario Cattlemen's Association and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

# A Couple of Botanists, Literally

Husband-and-wife team brings complementary research and teaching interests in plant physiology and ecology to Guelph

THOSE SCARLET AND BLUE lobelia plants growing in a section of the Bovey greenhouse have been busy, if the fuchsia-coloured stalks clustered among them are any indication. The eye-catching hybrids are an appropriate metaphor for the mingled research interests and personal lives of their human progenitors.

Profs. Hafiz Maherali and Christina Caruso brought their complementary research and teaching interests in plant physiology and ecology to Guelph's Department of Botany in January. To judge by the matching gold bands both wear in idiosyncratic fashion on their right hands, that's not all they brought.

As the first married couple hired jointly into the department, the husband-and-wife team of botanists meets in his-and-her studies of plant parts and plant evolution. Seated in his first-floor office in the Axelrod Building — directly across the hall from Caruso's — Maherali grins as he says: "She's the flower person, I'm the leaf person."

Where physiology and ecology meet is on the common research ground of biodiversity, an increasingly hot topic among the assorted botanists, zoologists and molecular geneticists in offices and labs throughout the Axelrod Building.

"Their research fits nicely with a developing strength both within the department and in the College of Biological Science," says Prof. Richard Reader, chair of the Department of Botany.

Maherali notes that ecologists or evolutionary biologists are "all in some way trying to understand how biodiversity evolved, how did we get here. What's gained by the two of us working together is that we basically bring a whole-organism perspective."

He and Caruso, who are members of the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario planned for U of G, together hope to learn more about the push-pull between flower structure and



Botany professors Christina Caruso and Hafiz Maherali share research space in the Bovey greenhouse.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

plant physiology in influencing evolution, including studying a chicken-and-egg conundrum: Do evolutionary pressures on floral traits account for speciation of plants, or do physiological changes push those plants down separate evolutionary paths?

To answer those questions, they're studying two closely related species of lobelia. The red one, *Lobelia cardinalis*, is known among perennial gardeners as cardinal flower. Less common is its blue cousin, *L. siphilitica* (so-called because it was once thought to cure syphilis). Even more obscure is the fuchsia hybrid nestled among its parents in that Bovey greenhouse.

Different flower structures in the two parent species mean that various pollinators prefer one or the other. *L. cardinalis* attracts hummingbirds; *L. siphilitica*, bees. Whereas the red species prefers boggy ground, the blue one favours a broader range of wet and dry habitats.

Those differences offer varying but complementary possibilities for botanists. Where Caruso saw a candidate for testing ideas about adaptive pollination strategies, Maherali saw it as a study of drought tolerance.

They also find *L. siphilitica* intriguing because it's gynodioecious, meaning some plants carry female-only flowers, and others mix male and female functions on the same flowers. What were the ecological and physiological consequences of one or the other?

"It's an evolutionary question," says Caruso, who wondered why female-only plants hadn't been squeezed out by hermaphrodites with their twofold breeding potential. "They have to make up for a disadvantage."

Their study found that female-only plants compensate for their disadvantage through a physiological difference that allows them to run a higher rate of photosynthesis to turn

sunlight into more food.

By cross-breeding the two species, she says, "I'm trying to capture the genetic basis of differences in floral and physiological traits. What percentage is due to genetic variation?"

This summer, the couple set up a joint experiment to examine the effects on floral morphology and physiology of growing the plants in either dry or wet conditions.

The duo might not have met at all if Caruso had followed her initial path. "I started as an ornithologist," she says. She studied both plants and animals at Oberlin College in Ohio. It was during a pollination study that she realized that what attracted her was not the pollinator but the "pollination."

Maherali was more interested in the physiology of plants — how they do what they do. A Calgary native who had studied the topic as an undergraduate at McGill University, he wanted to learn more about possible

effects of global climate change.

With a graduate scholarship in hand, he headed off for PhD studies at the University of Illinois, where Caruso was studying pollination and floral evolution. They met over pizza one evening after a lecture on plant ecology.

Married in 1998 before graduation, they lived apart for two years after Caruso landed a post-doctoral fellowship at Grinnell College in Iowa and Maherali went to Duke University. After racking up numerous frequent-flyer points and long-distance telephone bills, they were ecstatic when Caruso received a post-doctoral award to Duke from the American Association of University Women.

That long-distance experience led to their resolution to find joint postings at one university, a quest that saw both turn down promising individual offers. They hit gold with Guelph, where they now share lab space and are team teaching a graduate seminar course this semester.

"We end up talking a lot about science at home," says Maherali, adding that they often vet each other's research papers and grant applications. They say they aren't afraid to criticize each other's work. For relaxation, they've found another shared interest in tending the vegetable garden at their recently purchased Guelph home.

Presumably, they've figured out a more equitable division of labour there than during their school days. Becoming partners at Illinois and then Duke had paid unexpected mutual benefits. Each automatically got an extra pair of hands for lab or fieldwork, but the benefit wasn't necessarily even.

Maherali helped Caruso complete her dissertation on floral evolution, which meant he got to spend time in mountain meadows in Arizona. And what idyllic prospect did he dangle in return? "She helped me grind ponderosa pine needles at Illinois."

BY ANDREW VOWLES

## Young Children Often Challenge Parents, Study Finds

Parents are still led to believe that their primary goal is to get their children to obey them, but it's not that simple

WHEN CANADIAN PARENTS make simple requests of their young children, they are challenged 66 per cent of the time, according to a new U of G study.

Profs. Susan Lollis and Leon Kuczynski, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, observed 40 families made up of two parents and two children, ages four and six, to determine how children comply with parental requests. Parents get the results they want half the time, but in 17 per cent of these positive responses, children act only on their own terms. That means parents are getting exactly what they ask for only 33 per cent of the time.

Lollis and Kuczynski wanted to look at not only how parents shape their children's development, but also to what extent children can shape their parents. They observed every family for nine hours at 90-minute intervals, focusing on children's responses to requests.

"The fact that parents and their children engage in negotiation is probably good for their relationship," says Kuczynski.

Adds Lollis: "The problem is, the guidebooks for parents don't give advice that reflects average family life. In normal everyday families, there are a lot of conflicts. Four- and six-year-old siblings fight five to 12 times every hour, so parents are dealing with those conflicts every few minutes."

Parents are still led to believe that their primary goal is to get their children to obey them, but it's not that simple, says Kuczynski. "Children go beyond simply complying or not complying; they put creativity into the parents' request." In taking ownership of simple tasks, children are building assertiveness, negotiating strategies, skillful actions and their imaginations, say the researchers.

In observing the 40 families from the Kitch-

ener-Waterloo area, they recorded children's responses to parental requests and parental responses to children's requests. They found that children and parents make about the same number of demands of each other.

"It's a two-way street, like any other relationship," says Lollis. "Twenty-two per cent of the time, the parent agrees to a spin the child puts on the original request. Some of these were reluctant compromises on the mother's part, while others were novel resolutions achieved through creative action on the child's part and easily accepted by the mother." The children will agree to put away their toys, for example, but only after they get to play their favourite game a few more times.

The study results are helping to redefine the meaning of obedience. Instead of thinking that children comply to their parents' requests, Lollis and Kuczynski now prefer to think that chil-

dren simply accommodate the requests. "In parent/child relationships, unlike relationships with other adult authorities like teachers, the child is allowed to express his or her will," says Kuczynski. "And most parents seem to be OK with this. You might even say the parents encourage this."

Observing dynamics between siblings also helped in understanding the complexities of normal family life, says Lollis. "Siblings bring in other issues, like the fact that each has his or her own set of preferences, needs and goals that parents sometimes need to address simultaneously." Kuczynski adds that parents react differently to each child. "The child's inborn temperament actually feeds into the way the parent treats the child. In other words, children shape the strategies and the techniques the parent uses with the child."

BY RACHELLE COOPER

# POLITICALLY SPEAKING

For three decades, prof has been sharing his views on politics in print and on radio

By STACEY CURRY GUNN

IT'S NOT EVERY DAY you can give politicians a piece of your mind before an audience of Canadians from coast to coast. But that's the opportunity regularly afforded to Prof. William Christian, Political Science, when CBC Radio comes calling, as it did on a recent Wednesday afternoon.

From his sixth-floor office in the MacKinnon Building, Christian told CBC Radio listeners what he thought about the latest debacle in the Canadian Senate. The senators had delayed several bills that would ultimately die when Prime Minister Jean Chrétien prorogued Parliament to hand power to Paul Martin.

In 10-minute intervals over more than two hours, Christian discussed the underlying politics with CBC interviewers from Calgary, Regina, Halifax, Edmonton, Saint John, Windsor, St. John's, Quebec City, Yellowknife, Whitehorse and Winnipeg.

"It's not easy trying to explain the proroguing of Parliament in less than a minute to the drive-home crowd," he says. "It takes me half an hour to do that in my classes."

But that's what the CBC pays him to do, as one of its regular political commentators for many years now. On this particular occasion, he says he tried to explain the latest power play between Chrétien and Martin and took aim at the "disgraceful and despicable" behaviour of the Senate for dealing a death blow to bills on issues ranging from electoral boundaries to marijuana decriminalization to reproductive technologies.

Christian has been giving his views on such matters for more than three decades, starting with the columns he wrote for *The Varsity*, the University of Toronto's student newspaper. He got his first real taste of punditry during the 1972 federal election when, as a newly minted professor at Mount Allison University, he covered the election news from Moncton, N.B., with his colleague Colin Campbell.

Today, after 25 years at U of G, nine books to his credit and a place in the *Canadian Who's Who*, Christian is a familiar figure on the pundit circuit. Over the years, he has written numerous freelance op-ed pieces and book reviews for the *Globe and Mail* and the *Toronto Star*. In 1993, his biography of renowned Canadian political philosopher George Grant reached the number two spot on the *Toronto Star* bestseller list, behind Pierre Trudeau's memoirs.

These days, Christian assuages his considerable appetite for writing with regular biweekly columns in the *Kitchener-Waterloo Record* and the *Guelph Mercury*. He estimates that these extracurricular activities add up to more than 15,000 written words a year.

Why does he do it? Well, he gets paid for one thing. But joking aside, he says he finds the process of writing absolutely irresistible.

"It's what I really love doing. I don't have any choice. Why does a poet write poetry or a painter paint? I would feel very unhappy if I weren't doing this."

He believes it's especially important that politics be understood within historical and philosophical contexts.

"Most Canadian politicians and citizens are lacking any depth of historical understanding in which politics takes place. It's as if the current problem with the Senate is the first time it ever happened, and it's not. I like to try to show these problems in relation to things that have happened in the past to help resolve present problems."



It's Christian's knowledge and his style that make him a popular choice as a current events commentator, according to one producer who books interviews for CBC Radio.

"When I've spoken to him, he's almost always willing to help out," says Antonia Reed, who coincidentally is a 1998 Guelph graduate. "But why I like getting his perspective is that not only does he know his stuff about Canadian politics, he's not dry. He's got the right mix of knowledge and irreverence to be both entertaining and informative."

That mix of facts and fun is likely what made Christian a regular guest on the late Peter Gzowski's *Morningside* radio show, one of the professor's favourite outlets over the years because of the renowned host's "extremely sophisticated and intelligent" interviewing skills.

Television, on the other hand, wasn't kind to Gzowski's legendary abilities, and it's one medium that Christian chooses to leave largely alone because of its limitations.

"TV hardly seems worth the effort at all. You drive to the studio, wait around and get very little airtime. You can't afford a coherent argument. Best of all is print journalism because you have complete control over what you want to say."

With reams of opinion pieces bearing his name, it's only natural to wonder where Christian himself fits along the political spectrum. He has written several books on ideology, but his personal philosophies defy categorization. He admits he's much more comfortable characterizing where other people fit.

And he believes that labelling oneself with an ideology is a simplistic exercise that, for those who do, "solves a lot of their problems of thinking. It makes actions a lot easier."

Christian chooses to adopt whatever perspective on an issue seems suitable at the time. "Sometimes it might be left, sometimes it might be right, sometimes it might be centre, sometimes it might be off the wall."

One clue, however, to the qualities he values is the image on his computer's screen saver, a portrait of his "hero," 18th-century English politician and philosopher Edmund Burke.

If Christian had to identify with anybody, he says it would be Burke, an "evolutionary conservative" who espoused the importance of slow change. Burke was noted for his lack of strict adherence to a particular political doctrine. History remembers him as a Whig politician who spent all his career on the opposition benches. He protested the British government's ultimately unsuccessful handling of its American colony and supported the Irish Catholic struggle for fairer treatment under the law.

Eighteenth-century England crops up in other areas of the life that Christian has built with his wife, Barbara, co-ordinator of writing services in the Learning Commons. They married in their early 20s when William was a PhD student at the London School of Economics. As newlyweds in England, they would frequent English antique shops, "drooling over stuff we couldn't afford," he says.

One thing they did buy at the time was a tea tray that had belonged to Burke. "It was a crummy, beaten-up old thing that cost way too much," recalls William. "Barbara was very good about it."

Once they moved to New Brunswick for William's job at Mount Allison, the couple managed to spare some of his assistant professor's salary to start collecting 18th-century furniture in earnest, an interest that continues to this day.

William Christian's office and the couple's home also house a prize collection of antique oriental rugs — or more accurately, tribal weavings. That passion started about 15 years ago when he happened to be in England and was looking for a rug for one of his two sons, who was moving into residence at the University of Toronto. He ended up buying a few second-hand rugs, then tried to find out more about them. "The more I looked, the more complicated and interesting they became."

Today, the Christians have about 100 rugs and weavings, some displayed in their home and some packed away.

There's another collection, however, that links William Christian's love of both antiquity and politics. Since his student days, he's been buying prints by 18th-century English caricaturist James Gillray. Gillray, he says, "is vicious. He sees into the foibles of politicians and rips them apart."

Christian doesn't pull any punches either, but his humour has a moderating effect — to wit, his most recent column for *The Record* and *The Mercury*, taking Canada's senators to task and calling for the abolishment of the institution.

It's a combination of history lesson and cutting critique that targets several senators in particular but manages to spare another of Christian's heroes, Liberal senator and hockey great Frank Mahovlich.

"Big Frank" was my hockey idol as a youth, and though I doubt he knows anything about politics, I could never begrudge him anything, not even 15 unjustified years in the Senate," he writes.

So hockey trumps politics. And Christian shows that a little levity can take a serious discussion beyond informative and make it entertaining as well.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWABE

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# Visual Arts, Music Students Combine Their Talents

Exchange of ideas gives students chance to understand creative process of another field



Profs. John Graham, centre, and Ellen Waterman, right, along with several of their students, check out one of the prints being prepared for the upcoming music/visual art performance called *Atmospherics*.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

**U**NLIKE MUSICIANS and actors, visual artists don't often get the chance to present their work on stage to a live audience. But on Nov. 21 at 8 p.m., U of G printmaking students will be in the George Luscombe Theatre spotlight premiering work created in collaboration with students in Guelph's Contemporary Music Ensemble. The 40-minute music/visual art performance, called *Atmospherics*, is free and open to the public.

As the musicians play, two printmaking students will slowly raise a black curtain to reveal a quilt made up of 20 intaglio prints arranged in four lines that will act as a visual counterpart to the music. Fine art professor John Graham came up with the idea of unveiling the visual art by the sequenced lifting of a curtain.

"I thought making the quilt appear slowly would create a richer and more dynamic relational experience," he says. "It would also be time-based as opposed to a one-time

experience. It's sort of a score for the audience. They'll be able to meditate on the visual art as they're listening to this music. Their concentration will shift along the mosaic as the music moves in time."

By encouraging their students to work together, music professor Ellen Waterman and Graham are giving them the opportunity to understand the creative process of another field. Ten students from the Contemporary Music Ensemble are working with 21 printmaking students to create the compositions and prints on common themes.

"It's the exchange of ideas between the music and visual arts students that's crucial," says Waterman. "The students talk about what they have in common and what's different about composing in visual arts and composing in music."

To prepare for the collaboration, Waterman asked her students to think differently about time. "I've been talking with students about sculpting time," she says. "The dif-

ference in music is often how it progresses over time, but in this kind of patchwork idea, it isn't so much about a sustained narrative over time; it's not so linear."

Music can also sound like certain colours and styles of visual art, she says. "We do group exercises where I say: 'Now everybody be pointillistic, now everybody be very smooth and sustained.' It really is like a palette of sound choices and textures."

Graham says this collaboration has made his students see the similarities between the two art forms. "There are many similarities, like the notion of colour in music and colour in visual art. Even figure-ground relationships in art exist in music as well, where you have a foreground and a figure. The similarities are really striking."

The prints may represent the music abstractly or concretely depending on how the students interpret the common theme, says Graham.

"The challenge from my perspective is how the students interpret the music appropriately. The print students have attempted to give form to the tone and spirit of each composition whether it might be celebratory, chaotic, harmonious, encircling, flowing or fractured."

Graham and Waterman hope audience members take away the common emotional intentions behind both forms of art. The finished product will be what Graham calls "visual music" and Waterman calls "sonic art."

"We're making the art perform," says Waterman. "That's part of what's so exciting about it. The audience will get this interaction between the visual art and the music in the moment because it is a performance."

BY RACHELLE COOPER

# Engineers Without Borders Opens Windows on World

Guelph student spends summer working in Indonesia

**A**FRISBEE. That's the one item Clinton Reynolds told the Engineers Without Borders (EWB) selection committee he'd take overseas if he were picked for a volunteer internship in a developing country. The Guelph student ended up packing two Frisbees, which he says helped as icebreakers with boys in the Indonesian village where he worked this summer.

Reynolds, now in his third year of environmental engineering at Guelph, used his first trip abroad to help design a demonstration system in solid-waste management. He lived and worked in the village of Jogjakarta, about an hour's plane flight from the capital, Jakarta.

He was one of about nine Canadian students who travelled to developing countries this summer under a new EWB internship program called Operation 21. The program is intended to send a member from each of the organization's 21 Canadian chapters to overseas destinations each summer to help with international development projects.

"I've always been interested in world issues, but to tell the truth, I didn't know much about international development," says Reynolds.

While in Indonesia, he helped design and build a solid-waste management system as a demonstration site for villagers. After researching such things as what kinds of waste were produced and who normally handles waste disposal in typical households, he devised a system to separate paper and plastic and to collect material for composting.

With about 60 per cent of household waste consisting of organic materials, composting turned out to be a key component of the system. Ordinarily, people burn their refuse or dump it. He designed a three-bin system that could handle about 20 cubic metres of waste at a time, pro-

ducing compost within a month.

Systems like this are scarce in Indonesia, the world's third-most populous country. Some 100 million people live on the main island of Java alone.

Reynolds also worked on organic farming practices intended to help farmers develop sustainable agriculture. "The biggest environmental problem I saw in Indonesia was not technology but environmental awareness," he says.

Back in Canada, he's determined to apply what he learned, perhaps in another international development project.

Modelled after the humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders, the Engineers Without Borders program in Canada began in 2000. There are about 3,700 members across the country. The charity organization's goal is to teach engineers and engineering students about international development.

During the past two years, more than 60 young Canadian engineers have visited 20 countries to help with projects in water and sanitation, agriculture and food processing, energy, and information and communications technology.

Reynolds joined the U of G chapter last year. He is vice-president, research and projects, for the chapter, which began in 2001.

Biological engineering student Jason Pearman is this year's co-president (external) for the Guelph chapter. He says a key lesson for Canadian students placed through this summer's program is that "just providing technology is not the answer. Many sociopolitical factors must also be addressed. Clinton's experience has definitely reaffirmed the importance EWB places on capacity building through appropriate technology."

BY ANDREW VOWLES

## Post Prints Correction

**T**HE NATIONAL POST has published a correction for a Nov. 11 editorial column that incorrectly reported that U of G's Central Student Association (CSA) voted to ban recognition of Remembrance Day on campus in 2002.

In the correction, *The Post* says the column contained incorrect information and says it regrets the error.

In addition, the CSA received a personal apology from the writer of the column, who said he had relied on second-hand information and misrepresented the facts.

The CSA did not take any such action against Remembrance Day, says David Hornsby, CSA academic commissioner. Last year, one CSA executive member voiced his opin-

ion about why he was abstaining from Remembrance Day services, and that choice provoked criticism and debate across campus, Hornsby says.

President Alastair Summerlee sent a letter to the *National Post* in response to the column, and Hornsby also submitted a letter to the editor, which was published Nov. 12. Additional letters supporting the University appeared in the newspaper Nov. 13. U of G also asked the newspaper to run a correction.

The column resulted in the University receiving numerous calls and e-mails from concerned readers, says Chuck Cunningham, director of Communications and Public Affairs. He notes that each individual received a personal response.

## Paris Semester Winter 2005

The Paris Semester Committee invites applications from interested faculty for the position of Co-ordinator, Paris Semester Program for winter semester, 2005. This program is broadly based, drawing students from across colleges, and integrates the rich resources of Paris into each of the courses offered.

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**Duties and responsibilities of the co-ordinator include:**

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Interested faculty are requested to contact by Monday, December 1

Dr. Jay Lampert

Chair, Paris Semester Committee  
Ext. 53220 (Philosophy Department)  
jilampert@uoguelph.ca.

# Athletics Centre Is Changing With the Times

Centre revamps facilities, introduces new programs to meet the needs of the University community

ANYONE WHO'S BEEN to the Mitchell Athletics Centre this fall to catch a varsity game, take a fitness class or go for a swim will have noticed it's been constantly changing. The lower weight room has relocated to the upper east balcony, the cardio machines are now all grouped together in one room, and a hallway has been re-established in the back of the building on the east side.

These changes only scratch the surface of the renovations and new facilities and programs being added to U of G's athletics complex.

Athletics director Richard Freeman says buying more equipment and revamping programs are necessary to keep the University community fit and healthy.

"Our philosophy of healthier bodies, stronger minds is a proven fact that applies in the workplace, in the study room and in residences," he says. "We will explore any opportunity we have to increase the fitness level of our campus community."

In anticipation of the increased number of students arriving in the double cohort year, Freeman began a review of all facilities and programs almost two years ago.

"We wanted to make sure we had the necessary facilities, and we wanted to make sure our programs were consistent with the needs and wants of our clients," he says.

He notes that campus fitness programs used to be highly structured, which could make it difficult to accommodate the varying schedules of students and employees.

"We've now expanded the number and the timing of activities to better suit people's schedules," he says.

The growth in the number of people using the Athletics Centre's facilities this fall is evidence that Freeman's assessment of client needs is paying off. As of Sept. 30, 2,211 people were registered in more than 100 interest classes — including personal training, pilates, yoga, kayaking, rock climbing, belly dancing, kickboxing, water running, tai chi and spinning — offered outside of the 74 weekly fitness classes available at the centre. This semester, 169 faculty and 219 staff members bought



Spinning class participants (including fitness and lifestyle director Pat Richards, second from left) are reflected in the mirror of newly renovated Room 300 over the squash courts in the Mitchell Athletics Centre.

PHOTO BY RACHELLE COOPER

memberships, bringing to more than 15,000 the number of students and employees who have access to the facilities. About 7,000 people participate in the dozen intramural sports offered every semester.

To accommodate all these programs, Freeman says optimizing available space, improving customer service and hiring more staff have been critical.

When it comes to hiring staff, fitness and lifestyle director Pat Richards has long believed there's no need to look outside the University to recruit new instructors. In the early 1990s, she began offering courses to certify people as fitness instructors, personal trainers and weight trainers. A decade later, U of G employs more than 90 instructors qualified to provide these services.

"We have a solid group of trainers who can help people get back into activity or achieve their fitness goals," says Richards.

Finding instructors is simpler than finding space in the Athletics Centre to accommodate new programs. But where there's a will, there's a way. To introduce spinning classes this year, for example, Freeman had the space above the squash courts renovated and bought 13 "spinning" stationary bicycles to install there.

Now, Athletics Centre members can sign up for any of 22 weekly spinning classes, where instructors lead participants through hill climbs, sprints and flat surface riding.

"The addition of spin classes provides a welcome change for those of us who enjoy a new challenge," says Margaret Timmins, an administrative assistant in the Department of Food Science who is registered in two weekly classes.

People can try a spinning class for free once exams begin or take a drop-in class anytime for \$5.

The decision to move the weight room to the east gallery was largely to lighten traffic

flow in the main lobby, says Freeman. More than 90 per cent of the people using the weight room are men, and in the old location, they had to walk through the lobby from the men's locker room to reach it.

The relocation has allowed Freeman to dedicate the old space to a new martial arts centre. "The weight room doesn't require the quietness that some of the martial arts do. Now, people participating in martial arts will have the ability to concentrate and focus on their activity."

Grouping the stationary bikes, rowing machines, stair climbers and elliptical training machines together in one room to create separate cardio and circuit training/light weight rooms was a response to client feedback, says Freeman. He says the next step will be to buy more mirrors and more equipment to increase weight training in that area.

Before this fall, the only indoor access to the Gryphon Dome from the Athletics Centre was through the men's locker room. A former hallway on the east side of the building has been rebuilt to give women easier access to the Dome.

Freeman also plans to dedicate a supervisor to let people re-enter the Athletics Centre from the Dome through the back door to enhance safety.

He and Richards agree they will keep looking ahead at future fitness trends to keep their members happy.

"I think we'll see more of a blend between yoga and pilates and fitness or yoga," says Richards. "I also think stretching classes with balance work will return to help participants improve their balance and flexibility, and water training, especially water running, will continue to grow."

Other planned changes for the Athletics Centre itself over the next two years include improved signage, the purchase of more weight training equipment and mirrors for the circuit area, additional cardio equipment for the cardio theatre, renovation of the business office in the main lobby and renovations to the red pool.

BY RACHELLE COOPER

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## A Special Thank You

U of G marked Child-Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day Nov. 5 with a special event at the U of G Child-Care and Learning Centre. Children from the centre joined president Alastair Summerlee, associate vice-president (student affairs) Brenda Whiteside and Prof. Joe Tindale, chair of the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, in a special "thank you" to the centre's staff for their commitment to early childhood education. Above, Summerlee offers his personal thanks to child-care teacher Deborah Kayondo.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

## IN THE NEWS

Editor's note: This column highlights U of G researchers who have been featured in the national media. Submissions can be sent to r.cooper@exec.uoguelph.ca or Lhunt@exec.uoguelph.ca.

CBC-TV ran a *NewsWorld* special Nov. 8 and 9 on Prof. Thomas King, English and Theatre Studies, and the Massey Lectures he gave across Canada this month.

Prof. David Castle, Philosophy, was quoted in a Nov. 4 *Globe and Mail* article about a new study on the ethics of nutrigenomics — choosing diets based on genes.

The Nov. 4 *National Post* included an article about Prof. Valerie Davidson, Engineering, and her appointment to the NSERC/HP (Canada) Women in Science and Engineering Chair.

The new Advanced Foods and Materials Network, part of the Networks of Centres of Excellence, which is headed by Prof. Rickey Yada, Food Science, was featured in a front-page story in the Nov. 4 *Toronto Star*.

Prof. Stephen Henighan, Languages and Literatures, was quoted in the *Globe and Mail* Nov. 3 about the 10th anniversary of the Giller Prize. His review of the book *The Natashas: The New Global Sex Trade* appeared in *The Globe* Oct. 18.

Research by family relations professors Susan Lollis and Leon Kuczynski on children and parental directions was the focus of a front-page story in the Nov. 3 *National Post*. The professors were also interviewed on a number of TV and radio programs, including CTV *News* and CBC Radio's *Ontario Morning*.

Linda Slater, an education specialist with the Centre for Students with Disabilities, was quoted in the Nov. 1 *Canadian Living* magazine, talking about Pre-Flight, a new college prep program for students with learning disabilities.

An Oct. 28 *Globe and Mail* article about the dangerous fats that lurk in snacks included comments from Prof. Bruce Holub, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences. Holub also appeared on Citytv's national

news, *Good Morning Canada*, *Canada AM* and CTV *News*.

Patrick Boyer, an adjunct professor in the Department of Political Science, took part in a CBC Radio panel discussion on political ethics Oct. 29.

Prof. Gord Surgeoner, Environmental Biology, was quoted in the Oct. 28 issue of the *Toronto Star*, talking about the food industry targeting the public's "taste for wellness." He also appeared on Citytv's *Breakfast Television* show Oct. 27 to discuss grocery innovations in Canada. On Sept. 29, he was interviewed by CBC Radio about the effect that aging baby boomers are having on the food industry.

Prof. Paul Hebert, Zoology, was quoted in the *Globe and Mail* Oct. 24 about his new DNA barcoding for species and how it can be used to identify new marine species.

Prof. William Christian, Political Science, was interviewed by CBC Radio Oct. 16 about the Canadian Alliance and Progressive Conservatives agreeing to "unite the right."

An Oct. 15 *Globe and Mail* article about the current status of squeegee cleaners included research by and quotes from Prof. Bill O'Grady, Sociology and Anthropology.

Prof. Michael Grand, Psychology, appeared on CBC Radio programs across the country Oct. 14 talking about adoption disclosure policies.

An Oct. 4 *National Post* story on managing children's extracurricular activities quoted Prof. John Beaton, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition.

College of Arts dean Jacqueline Murray was featured in an Oct. 1 *National Post* story about Guelph's Scottish studies chair.

Prof. Gard Otis, Environmental Biology, was interviewed by CBC Radio Sept. 23 about the growth of wasp populations.

Prof. Donna Lero, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, was quoted in the *Wall Street Journal* Sept. 16 about Canada's parental-leave policies.

## ACADEMIC INFO CORNER

Editor's note: This column is part of a continuing series running throughout the 2003/2004 academic year. It is written by David Hornsby, academic commissioner of the Central Student Association, and Shari Dorr, co-ordinator of the Undergraduate Academic Information Centre.

**T**HE FINAL WEEK OF CLASSES is fast approaching, which means many students and instructors are in the middle of essays and assignments. With the semester's end in sight, it's important to be aware of the regulations surrounding the final week of classes and final assignments.

During the last week of classes, take-home examinations and term tests must not be scheduled, with the exception of college-approved practical evaluations such as laboratory or studio tests. Final assignments or papers are permitted in the final week before the exam period and during the exam period itself, but must be given to students by the end of the ninth week of classes and must have been identified in the course outline.

Fall semester classes conclude Nov. 28, and the final exam period runs from Dec. 1 to 12. Prior to this period, students and instructors are advised to reacquire themselves with regulations for final course requirements.

Required final sit-down exams must have been identified in the course outline and must be given during the exam period published by the Office of Registrarial Services ([www.uoguelph.ca/regweb](http://www.uoguelph.ca/regweb)). Under normal circumstances, changes or additions to the published exam timetable are not allowed. If a change or addition is necessary, however, the instructor should consult his or her chair/director and contact scheduling staff in the Office of Registrarial Services. The instructor must also obtain written approval from all students in the course.

A final assignment due during the exam period may be assigned, but an instructor cannot require both this format and a final exam. If a take-home or other format final evaluation (e.g., oral exam) is given,

it must be given or due during the final exam period. The assigned due date must be no later than the ninth day of the exam period (sixth day in summer). Students must have a minimum of 72 hours between the date of issue and the due date, and both of these dates must have been published in the course outline.

To plan for requirements during the final exam period, it is useful for students to prepare a personal schedule for final coursework by plotting both the scheduled date and time of final exams and the due dates of any final assignments. This will help students in allowing adequate time to complete assignments and prepare for multiple exams within a short period.

Students are reminded that the only true conflict during this period is two scheduled sit-down exams at one time. Attendance at a scheduled final exam is not normally a valid reason for submitting a final assignment late. And missing a scheduled exam because the schedule was misread is not grounds for academic consideration.

All students who are required to complete sit-down final examinations are reminded:

- to arrive on time because no student is allowed to enter an exam after the first hour of the slot has elapsed;
- to take their University ID card to every exam because it is required for the attendance/sign-in process;
- to ensure that their name and ID number are clearly written on all exam materials;
- to ensure that booklets for written exam responses are numbered if more than one is used;
- that they must remain in the room for the first hour once the exam slot has started; and
- that no student is allowed to leave the exam during the final 15 minutes of the slot.

Complete information about coursework during the last week of classes and final exams is available in Section 8 of the undergraduate degree regulations and procedures in the current undergraduate calendar at [www.uoguelph.ca/undergrad\\_calendar/08.shtml](http://www.uoguelph.ca/undergrad_calendar/08.shtml).



### UNITED WAY UPDATE

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#### Volunteers!

United Way co-ordinators and canvassers are invited to a volunteer appreciation luncheon Dec. 1 from noon to 1:30 p.m. in Room 442 of the University Centre. RSVP to Margaret Armstrong at Ext. 56016 or [marmstro@uoguelph.ca](mailto:marmstro@uoguelph.ca).

# Top Ranking 'a Real Tribute to the People at Guelph'

Continued from page 1

indicators that measure overall quality within six general themes: student body, classes, faculty, finances, library and reputation. U of G maintained or improved last year's strong performance in 16 of the categories, including top placements in the number of faculty with PhDs, the proportion of first-year students with an entering average of 75 per cent or higher, and the proportion of students who graduate. It also earned a second-place rating for the number of students who have won national academic awards in the past five years.

"In a year where an alarming number of universities fell — nine out of 17 — and only five schools maintained their position, staying at number one is a great achievement," says Ann Dowsett Johnston, who edits the *Maclean's* rankings issue.

"What stands out for me about Guelph is the retention and graduation numbers," she says. "Those are the closest things we have to output rates. The numbers of student awards and classes taught by tenured faculty are also meaningful. You are in with some very significant competition and performed well across the board."

*Maclean's* also published a reputational survey based on comments solicited from 11,612 people across the country, including CEOs of major Canadian corporations, high school counsellors and academic administrators. In that survey, U of G ranked second in "best overall" and second in each of three categories: highest quality, most innovative and leaders of tomorrow.

Mike O'Neill, a first-year international development student, says he relied on his own personal ranking system when he chose to come to



"Thanks for making us number one." That was the theme of a celebration hosted by the Central Student Association (CSA) last week at the Bullring to mark U of G's recent ranking as top comprehensive university in Canada by *Maclean's* magazine. Dozens of students, faculty and staff turned out for cake and coffee in the newly renovated coffee house. Pictured above, from left, are CSA executive members David Hornsby, Derek Husser and Quentin Sinclair.

PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

Guelph: the word of a friend.

"You can get the greatest ranking in whatever magazine and it doesn't really mean much unless someone you know and relate to says it's a good school," says O'Neill, who was one of three "double cohort" students featured on the cover of *Maclean's* last year. He makes an appearance in this year's issue as well, updating readers on his whereabouts.

"My friend had a great time here

and said the school really helped its students in learning," he says. "I had heard that some universities have a 'swim or sink' approach, and Guelph didn't seem to."

O'Neill, a National Merit Scholar, visited the campus a few times, thought it had "a good vibe" and applied. He now lives with 10 other students in Eco House in East Residence. "Guelph was absolutely the right choice for me," he told *Maclean's*.

His favourite thing about U of G? Supported learning groups and the Learning Commons. "I'm not a textbook learner, and huge classes are designed for textbook learners. I learn through discourse and critical analysis, so the Learning Commons has been an invaluable resource. The more cash that goes into that place, the better for students."

Being able to improve on innovative programs and services such as the Learning Commons is one of

Summerlee's aspirations.

"The University has astounding potential," he says. "I dream of the things we could do, all of the possibilities, if we had additional resources. It's amazing what the University of Guelph and all universities in Ontario have been able to achieve despite years of funding constraints."

He adds that although rankings such as *Maclean's* are gratifying, they can mask problems universities are facing, such as infrastructure renewal and accommodating the waves of students expected in the next couple of years.

"The real challenge will be keeping up the level of performance under those pressures."

Summerlee admits he's received a bit of ribbing about U of G's witup in *Maclean's*, which highlighted his eccentricity and said students describe him as "bald, barefoot and sexy."

He says that although the article was witty and fresh, the president's personality traits are "not the things students look at when they're thinking about coming to university. That is not what Guelph is about."

He was, however, pleased that *Maclean's* highlighted U of G's focus on innovation and that "we remain one of a select number of academic institutions in Canada where research and teaching are creatively intertwined."

Michael Walsh, chair of Board of Governors, notes that the *Maclean's* ranking "comes on the heels of our outstanding success in recent national ratings of accountability, research-intensiveness and campus atmosphere. This is a real tribute to the people at Guelph."

BY LORI BONA HUNT

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| Publication Date | Deadline | Publication Date | Deadline |
|------------------|----------|------------------|----------|
| Dec. 3           | Nov. 25  | Feb. 11          | Feb. 3   |
| Jan. 14          | Jan. 6   | Feb. 25          | Feb. 17  |
| Jan. 28          | Jan. 20  | March 10         | March 2  |

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# LETTERS

## I'M PROUD TO BE A GUELPH GRAD

As a graduate of the University of Guelph (BA '92), I am thrilled to see that Guelph is once again number one in the *Maclean's* rankings. It makes me proud to say I graduated from such a fantastic school. Congratulations to all.

Carol Stanford, Aurora

## THOUGHTFULNESS APPRECIATED

On Nov. 5, I was doing interviews at U of G, and when I reached into my pockets at the end of the day, I realized I had lost my keys. What followed was a panic attack, unsuccessful efforts to reach people whose offices I had been in, and the growing realization that this was likely to turn into one of my more major screw-ups as I had to speak in Waterloo in an hour.

Feeling dumb beyond measure, I went to my car near the Bovey Building and found a Post-it Note on the window. An anonymous kind person said she or he had found the keys and stuck them under my front wheels, then drew me a smiley face. I don't know who you are, but kind smiley person, your thoughtfulness to a stranger that day made me feel good not only about you, but also about the University of Guelph, Canada and the world in general.

Stephen Strauss, *Globe and Mail*

## GOOD SHOW!

After reading the Nov. 5 @Guelph article about the drama program's production of *Lola Starr Builds Her Dream Home*, I wasn't too sure what to expect. I've never been to one of

these productions in all the years I've been on campus, but after seeing this play, I'm certainly going to make it a point to attend more often. It was a full house!

I tip my hat to all members of the cast and crew of this absolutely delightful play. The characters played by various students couldn't have been more perfect. And I must say the "leading lady" deserves "her/his" credit. She was amazing, as were all the other performers. I couldn't stop laughing throughout the entire play.

Congratulations to everyone, and thank you to Prof. Sky Gilbert for putting this production together.

Toni Pellizzari, CBS Dean's Office

## FAMILY SAYS THANKS

The family of Marilyn Schooley would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to the many, many people of the University community who meant so very much to her. Her time spent on campus was a source of great satisfaction and enhanced her life in ways we could never explain.

Special thanks go out to Chris and Alex Goody, Flo and Shari Dorr, Chuck Cunningham, Mordechai Rozanski and president Alastair Summerlee.

Gary Schooley and family

@Guelph welcomes letters to the editor from the University community. They should be limited to 500 words and submitted electronically if possible to [b.chance@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:b.chance@exec.uoguelph.ca). @Guelph reserves the right to reject any letter for publication and to edit letters for content and length.



## Where Are You Now?

If you know where this photo was taken on campus, be the first to submit the correct answer and you'll be recognized with a mention in the next issue of @Guelph and have your name entered in a prize draw at the end of the semester for a \$50 gift certificate from the U of G Bookstore. Send your response to [r.cooper@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:r.cooper@exec.uoguelph.ca) or call Ext. 56982. The first person to correctly identify last week's photo as the sculpture in the MacKinnon Building courtyard was Kirk Sprague of Physical Resources. The sculpture was created by Joseph Drenters and was built out of old farm equipment.

PHOTO BY DYLAN CUNNINGHAM

# Facing a Fast-Changing Field

Continued from page 1

born into a herd of black-and-white relatives, the result of a recessive gene.

"Why and how it happened interested me, so I started trying to breed for it to happen again."

Dietrich became so interested in cattle genetics that he faxed his résumé to Semex Alliance, the largest co-operatively owned livestock ge-

netics company in the world, while he was still in high school. He even offered to work for free. He was hired to work at the Semex booth at the Royal Winter Fair and later as a summer intern.

He was also still in high school when the Walkerton *E. coli* tragedy occurred, hitting close to home. "I grew up five minutes from Walkerton. I went to school there."

He ended up spearheading a 4-H pilot project on water management and quality, speaking to groups across the province on its importance.

"I hate to say it, but before Walkerton, I don't think many people were too concerned about water or understood how important water-quality management is. Obviously, it's a huge issue in Canada, and we need to take better care of our water in the future to ensure quality."

Dietrich has continued promoting water management and agriculture as both a lifestyle and a progressive career choice while at Guelph. The second-year student is pursuing a bachelor of science in agriculture with his sights set on working in cattle genetics.

"There's always going to be people to feed and a need for land and water," he says.

But, he adds, there are a lot of misconceptions about what that means.

"A lot of people think you come to school here to study agriculture, then go home to farm. They don't realize how agriculture has changed. There's a lot of science in fields like genetics, and there are lots of great opportunities. Agriculture is one of the fastest-growing industries in the world."

BY LORI BONA HUNT

# CFI Grants to Six Faculty

Continued from page 1

equipment and integrated surround audio sound.

"FASTWRMS research is based in the creative areas of social exchange and event architecture and focused on new integrated digital technologies, simultaneity of production and exchange and collaborative networks," says Skuse.

The studio, which will enable leading-edge research, promises to be "a unique and innovative approach to digital audio video cultural production," adds Kozzi.

Bierlin will use his \$124,800 in CFI funding to do research into population genetics and molecular epidemiology of veterinary and zoonotic pathogens. The centrepiece of the project will be a liquid-handling robot, which will be used to study the population structure of bacterial pathogens and to trace their spread and evolution with the newest DNA-based methods.

"This grant represents a dream come true," he says. "It will allow us to carry out molecular investigations of bacterial populations at unprecedented speed, scale and depth. It will

open the way to many interdisciplinary studies we would not have even dared thinking of in the past."

Fayek received \$71,657 for a QoS IP traffic management over optical fibre. It's central to her work in creating a "service layer" in a healthcare infrastructure that will include features to enable secure communications of "diagnosis-quality" transactions.

"Since this research will be based on both packet-switched and optical networks, this will also create a new research field in the School of Engineering and the University as a whole," she says.

Van Heyst will use his \$88,956 grant to create a state-of-the-art mercury measurement lab.

"I couldn't be more thrilled," he says. "Having this equipment early in my career will make a huge difference."

Van Heyst will study the behaviour of mercury in the environment and develop and validate high-end computer models.

"The computer simulations will eventually lead to the development

of regional mercury emission inventories that can be used by air quality modellers to assess the mercury exposure risk of various populations."

Colasanti received \$124,416 to develop a plant gene expression laboratory, where he will determine when and where genes are turned on and off in plants. Analyzing such patterns is crucial for understanding how genes act together to create an organism, he says. Colasanti will also develop a plant architecture informatics lab for visualizing gene expression data.

All of the U of G projects fall under CFI's New Opportunities Fund, which was designed to launch the careers of new faculty and help institutions recruit exceptional scholars.

"These CFI grants will help our talented young faculty make outstanding contributions to the development of science and innovation," says Prof. Chris McKenna, associate vice-president (research). "They will also provide our researchers and students with access to state-of-the-art equipment and facilities."

BY LORI BONA HUNT



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High chair, playpen, snowshoes with boots, upright cedar chest, women's figure skates, size 7½, 824-3993.

China cabinet with glass shelves and built-in lighting, 75" tall, 35" wide, 17" deep, 837-9152.

Westinghouse frost-free refrigerator, almond, medium-sized, runs well, Wendy, Ext. 58713, 787-2963 or wcudmore@registrar.uoguelph.ca.

Oak dining room/kitchen chairs: two armchairs, four side chairs, Philadelphia hoopback Windsor-style, three years old, excellent condition, see photos at <http://members.rogers.com/cshelley/chairs.jpg>, contact Cameron at [cam\\_shelley@yahoo.com](mailto:cam_shelley@yahoo.com).

Handmade wooden clothes dryers, Ext. 56580.

Home theater system (without TV): two floor-model Abstract speakers and two rear Angstrom speakers, JVC audio/video amplifier receiver, RCA DVD player, includes cables and accessories; JVC audio/video amplifier receiver, two bookshelf Acoustic Research speakers, Cambridge Soundworks four satellite and subwoofer computer speakers,

includes cables and accessories, prefer to sell as package, sradhakru@uoguelph.ca.

Homemade chocolate truffles, sweetindulgencetruffles@hotmail.com.

Four 15-inch Blizzak snow tires on five-bolt rims, P195/60HR15, fit newer Sentras, almost new, very low mileage, Lisa, lhaidle@yahoo.com.

## FOR RENT

Furnished three-bedroom heritage home close to campus, two studies, two baths, formal living room with fireplace, dining room, eat-in kitchen, available Jan. 1 to May 15, \$1,200 a month plus utilities, 824-9203 or nearson@uoguelph.ca.

Three-bedroom townhouse in older neighbourhood, 10-minute walk to campus, available Dec. 5, \$1,100 a month plus utilities, first and last months' rent required, M.J., 836-5788 between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m.

Furnished house available Jan. 1 to March 31, flexible to end of semester if desired, 10-minute drive to University, on bus route, \$1,000 a month inclusive, 822-8372.

One-bedroom basement apartment in quiet neighbourhood, close to bus stop and laundromat, suitable for one person, separate entrance, parking for one car, non-smoker, no pets, available now, \$650 a month inclusive, no lease, 836-5608.

Semi-furnished one-bedroom basement apartment, close to bus and walking/bike trails, laundry, parking, non-smokers, no pets, available immediately, \$600 a month inclu-

sive, no lease, 766-1452 or amykoebel@rogers.com.

One bedroom in clean, spacious house, shared kitchen and bath, laundry, dishwasher, fireplace, close to bus stop and grocery store, available Feb. 1, \$375 a month plus shared utilities, Lisa, 766-0812 or lhaidle@yahoo.com.

Furnished house downtown on the river, available Jan. 1, Feb. 1 or March 1, \$1,200 a month includes biweekly cleaning, 836-4186 or learning@sensex.ca.

Three-bedroom house, close to campus, mall, school and bus stop, dishwasher, microwave, laundry, one parking space, available Jan. 1, \$1,200 a month plus utilities, 822-6765 or gloriacz.ca@yahoo.com.

Furnished two-bedroom condo, two baths, Jacuzzi, ensuite laundry, available Dec. 1, \$1,500 a month, Carol, 823-1857, 731-1857 or Intelrent@hotmail.com.

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Improvements to presentations, brochures and spreadsheets in Word, Excel, CorelDraw, WordPerfect and PowerPoint, reasonable rates, first half-hour free; tutoring/coaching in computer skills, Anne, 767-9618 or amcmurra@uoguelph.ca.

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In-home personal trainer with equipment for personalized workouts, Eleni, 824-7716 or ekapetanios@hotmail.com.

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## ARBORETUM

The Arboretum's Sunday afternoon walks continue Nov. 23 focusing on how animals survive and Nov. 30 with "Winter Discovery." Walks leave from the Nature Centre at 2 p.m. A donation of \$3 is suggested.

The Arboretum's Theatre in the Trees presents the farce *Boeing Boeing* by Marc Camoletti and Beverley Cross until Dec. 13. Doors open at 6 p.m. Cost is \$53. For tickets, call Ext. 54110.

## ATHLETICS

The women's hockey Gryphons are at home to Western Nov. 21 at 7:30 p.m. and the Brampton Jrs. Nov. 26 at 7:30 p.m. The men's team hosts l'Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières Nov. 22 at 2 p.m. and Concordia Nov. 23 at 2 p.m.

McMaster comes to campus Nov. 22 to take on the basketball Gryphons, with the women's teams playing at 1 p.m. and the men's at 3 p.m.

Guelph hosts the Eynon Division swimming championships Nov. 22 beginning at 4:30 p.m. and Nov. 23 from 10:30 a.m. On Nov. 28, the swim team is at home to Western at 7:30 p.m.

The women's volleyball Gryphons take on McMaster Nov. 28 at 7:30 p.m. The men's team hosts Toronto Nov. 29 at 2 p.m.

## CONCERTS

The Thursday noon-hour concerts continue Nov. 20 with the U of G Concert Winds conducted by John Goddard and Nov. 27 with Student Soloists' Day. The concerts begin at 12:10 p.m. in MacKinnon 107. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

As part of the festival "Benjamin Britten: A Celebration," the Aldeburgh Connection performs Britten's *The Heart of the Matter* Nov. 20 at 8 p.m. in War Memorial Hall. War Mem is also the site of a Nov. 27 concert featuring selected chamber music by Britten. It begins at 8 p.m. On Nov. 28, the U of G Choir performs works by Britten, Buxtehude and Saint-Saëns at 8 p.m. at the River Run Centre. The centre will also host the grand finale of the Britten festival with a production of *The Prodigal Son* Nov. 30 at 4 p.m. For ticket information, call 763-3000.

## FORUM

The Centre for Studies in Leadership is launching a monthly leadership forum Dec. 5 at 10 a.m. in Johnston Hall 104. The topic of the first forum is "What's Happening at the Centre for Studies in Leadership?" Everyone is welcome. If you're interested in attending, call Sarah Witol at Ext. 52152.

## LECTURES

CBS presents the Roy C. Anderson Memorial Lecture in Parasitology Nov. 21 at 1 p.m. in OVC 1714. Gerhard Schad of the University of Pennsylvania will discuss "Neurobiology of Infection in Parasitic Nematodes."

The classics section of the School of Languages and Literatures presents a public lecture by York University PhD candidate Richard Wenghofer on "Pious Murder: Politics, Religion and the Roman *Mimus*" Nov. 21 at 1:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 115.

## NOTICES

OVC Graduate Student Appreciation Day is Nov. 28 and will feature poster and oral presentations by grad students, a keynote talk by David Fraser of the University of British Columbia and a reception/awards ceremony, all in OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre. Fraser's talk on animal use and welfare issues begins at 4 p.m. in OVC 1714. For a full schedule of events, visit the website [www.ovc.uoguelph.ca](http://www.ovc.uoguelph.ca). On Nov. 27, OVC grad students will hold a panel discussion on graduate studies from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in OVC 1714. All U of G undergraduates are welcome to attend.

The U of G Child-Care and Learning Centre presents Kathy Sullivan of the Ontario Early Years Centre discussing "Early Literacy for Infants, Toddlers and Preschoolers" Nov. 25 at 7 p.m. at the centre. RSVP by Nov. 20 to Ext. 52682.

Fair November, an annual exhibition and sale of fine Canadian crafts by more than 80 artisans, runs Nov. 20 to 23 in the University Centre. Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

The Canadian Foundation for the International Space University is accepting applications for the 2004 International Space University summer program, to be held in Australia. It is open to graduate students, graduate degree holders or practising professionals in the workforce for under five years. Applicants can be in any discipline. The deadline for submissions is Jan. 30. For more information, call Nataka Kocan at 613-563-1236, Ext. 314, fax to 613-563-9745 or send e-mail to [nkocan@aucc.ca](mailto:nkocan@aucc.ca).

The Global Health Research Initiative invites letters of intent from teams of Canadian and developing-country researchers interested in conducting operational research that will contribute to the Canadian International Immunization Initiative. Letters of intent are due Dec. 15. For more information, visit the website [www.cihir-irc.gc.ca/elt/services/19251.shtml](http://www.cihir-irc.gc.ca/elt/services/19251.shtml).

Applications are now being accepted for the J. Armand Bombardier Internationalist Fellowships, available for study in credit or non-credit programs abroad at educational institutions abroad. They are open to Canadians and permanent residents of Canada who hold at least one university degree or are in the final year of a degree program. Submission deadline is March 18. An application form and guidelines can be found at [www.cbic.ca/bombardier/index\\_e.html](http://www.cbic.ca/bombardier/index_e.html).

## SEMINARS

The U of G SGI club presents Judy Sainsbury of SGI Canada discussing "Discovering Life's Unlimited Potential: Breaking War Habits" Nov. 19 at 7 p.m. in UC 441.

"Analysis of Heterocyclic Amines in Biological Fluids" is the topic of Kara Scott, Chemistry and Biochemistry, in the biochemistry seminar series Nov. 20 at noon in MacNaughton 203. On Nov. 27, Murray Junop of McMaster University presents "DNA Repair Proteins: From Structure to Mechanism" at noon in MacNaughton 222. On Dec. 4, Prof. Glen Pyle, Biomedical Sciences, discusses "At the Crossroads of the Heart: Controlling Cardiac Function Through Z-Discs" at noon in MacNaughton 222.

The Health and Performance Centre series on nutrition and exercise continues Nov. 20 with "Scale Down — Tone Up" at 7 p.m. in Powell 207. Cost is \$10. To register, call Ext. 53460.

The Department of Microbiology graduate student seminar series features Ryan Hunter explaining "Inside the Biofilm Matrix: The Concept of the Microenvironment" Nov. 21 and Darrell Cockburn presenting "Investigation of the Replacement of the Catalytic Base in Glycosyl Hydrolases With Cysteine-sulfenic Acid" Nov. 28. The seminars begin at 12:30 p.m. in Axelrod 117.

"Regulation of Glycogen Synthase-3beta Mediated Tau Protein Phosphorylation" is the topic of post-doctoral researcher Zhongfei Yuan in the Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences seminar series Nov. 21. On Nov. 28, post-doc Clinton Bruce discusses "The Effect of Exercise on Skeletal Muscle Insulin Resistance." The seminars are at 1 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 141.

The Department of Botany seminar series continues Nov. 25 with Prof. Larry Peterson explaining "Cytology of Nutrient Exchange Interfaces in Mycorrhizas" at 3:30 p.m. in Axelrod 265A.

Next up in the Department of Physics seminar series Nov. 25 is Nasser Moazzen-Ahmedi of the University of Calgary. On Dec. 9, Richard Price

of the University of Utah describes "Gravitational Waves, Lasers, Black Holes, Supercomputers and Approximations." The talks begin at 4 p.m. in MacNaughton 113.

Jun Murata of Brock University presents "Laser Microdissection to Identify Chemical Synthesis in Plants" in the Department of Pathobiology seminar series Nov. 28 at 2 p.m. in Pathobiology 2106.

The international development series features Prof. Craig Johnson, Political Science, discussing "Progress, 'Impasse' and Chaos: The Development Project at the End of the Century" Nov. 28 at 3 p.m. in MacLachlan 101.

Next up in the Department of Zoology seminar series Nov. 21 is Allan Chippindale of Queen's University exploring "The Gender Load: Sex, Genes, Irreconcilable Differences." On Nov. 28, Prof. Kevin McCann, Zoology, presents "Of Little Systems, Big Systems, Communities and Ecosystems." The seminars are at 3:30 p.m. in Axelrod 265A.

## TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services' training and development opportunities for faculty and instructional staff continue with a PowerPoint clinic Nov. 20, "Critical Reflection Learning Community" Nov. 24 and "Nominating for a 3M Fellowship" Nov. 28 and Dec. 2. Details and online registration for all TSS events are found on the website [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca).

## THEATRE

U of G drama students present one-act plays Nov. 20 to 22 at 8 p.m. at Massey Hall.

## THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Jennifer Myrie, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, is Nov. 24 at 2 p.m. in Hafa 331. The thesis is "Use of Boundaries by Self-Employed Home-Based Workers: Managing Work and Family." The adviser is Prof. Kerry Daly.

The final examination of PhD candidate Ramadan Akila, Mathematics and Statistics, is Dec. 2 at 1:30 p.m. in MacNaughton 222. The thesis is "Hopf Bifurcation of Coupled Oscillator Systems." The adviser is Prof. William Langford.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Guelph Little Theatre production of J.M. Barrie's *Peter Pan*, adapted by retired U of G engineering professor Keith Slater as a children's Christmas panto, runs Friday evenings and Saturday and Sunday afternoons from Nov. 28 to Dec. 14. Evening performances begin at 7

p.m.; matinees are at 2 p.m. The show is suitable for ages five and up. For tickets, call 821-0270.

The Guelph Urban Forum presents Prof. Rob de Loë, Geography, discussing "Droughts, Floods and Everything in Between: Water for Guelph and the Grand River Watershed" Nov. 20 at 7:30 p.m. in Landscape Architecture 204.

The Wellington County branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society meets Nov. 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church, 122 Harris St. Guest speaker is Rick Roberts of Global Genealogy in Milton.

Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis presents a workshop on self-care Dec. 10 from 1 to 4 p.m. at 18 Norwich St. E. To register, call 823-5806, Ext. 33.

The Guelph UNICEF shop with UNICEF cards and gift items is now open Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the upper level of Old Quebec Street. For more information, call 824-9672.

The Cambridge chapter of the Council of Canadians presents Patrick Boyer, an author, former MP and adjunct professor of political science at U of G, Nov. 26 at 7 p.m. at the Newfoundland Club (Dunbar Road beside Cambridge Centre). He will discuss government accountability and parliamentary democracy.

Guelph Youth Singers present "The Holly and the Ivy," a program of carols and seasonal music, Nov. 29 at 7:30 p.m. at the River Run Centre. For tickets, call 763-3000.

The Waterloo Wellington Wildflower Society meets Nov. 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the Evergreen Seniors Centre. Guest speaker is landscape architect Brad Peters. Everyone is welcome.

Opening Nov. 21 at the Guelph Civic Music is the exhibition "Holiday Stories of Ice and Snow," a celebration of the holiday season that explores traditional winter tales. It continues to Jan. 11. Continuing to Jan. 4 is the travelling exhibit "We All Live Downstream: The Science, History and Issues of Canada's Water Supply."

Royal City Musical Productions Inc. presents *The King and I* Nov. 19 to 22 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 22 and 23 at 2 p.m. at the River Run Centre. For tickets, call 763-3000.

The Guelph Historical Society meets Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Andrew's Church.

The Guelph Guild of Handweavers and Spinners holds a potluck dinner meeting Dec. 3 at 6:30 p.m. at Westwood United Church.

## @GUELPH

DECEMBER 3, 2003  
VOLUME 47, No. 19

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## SSHRC Supports Study of Father Involvement

Family relations prof to head \$1-million community-based research project

**T**HE BENEFITS to fathers of being involved in their children's lives — and the barriers to that involvement — are the focus of a community-based national research project headed by Prof. Kerry Daly, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition.

Daly has received nearly \$1 million from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) for the Father Involvement Research Alliance (FIRA). A blend of advocacy and research, the alliance will involve professors, fa-

thers, advocates, social workers and community groups from across the country. The project will run out of U of G's Centre for Families, Work and Well-Being under the direction of Linda Hawkins and will involve several Guelph faculty, including Profs. John Beaton, Anna Dienhart and Donna Lero.

"Fathers have become more involved with their children in the last 20 years," says Daly, "but a lot of dads still play second string. Culturally, fathers continue to be depicted in ways that ignore them or relegate

them to provider functions." In addition, public parenting services traditionally target mothers, he says.

"There is a general tendency to consider father involvement as a private matter. Our approach is to treat it as a public issue. We believe in the importance of examining father involvement as a diverse, multifaceted and complex experience."

The alliance is the outcome of more than three years of national partnership building with fathers, policy-makers, researchers and

Continued on page 14

## University Launches Logo to Mark 40th Anniversary

Revised U of G graphic standards guide is now available on the web

**T**ODAY MARKS the online publication of a revised U of G graphic standards guide and the introduction of a 40th-anniversary logo that commemorates the 1964 incorporation of the University.

The logo was created by campus designer Chris Boyadjian and has been approved for use by U of G departments and units during 2004. Digital copies of the logo and policies governing its use are outlined in the new online graphic guide at [www.uoguelph.ca/info/graphicstandards](http://www.uoguelph.ca/info/graphicstandards).

Communications and Public Affairs (C&PA) led a cross-campus effort to update the guide, which was first published as a booklet in 1992 to introduce policies for the appropri-



ate use of University trademarks and logotypes.

C&PA publications manager Mary Dickieson chaired a committee of almost 20 communications staff from various campus departments who have reviewed and updated the guide, with input from a broad spectrum of potential users.

An important feature of the new online guide is the inclusion of web design guidelines written by a campus-wide group of web developers led by U of G website manager Stuart Robertson of C&PA.

The graphic standards guide covers approved use of the U of G identifier and crest; official U of G colours for print and web use; the design of business cards, stationery, posters and memorabilia; typography; style guides; and other aspects of both external and internal communication materials. It also provides copyright-free photos of the campus and digital files of approved logotypes, including U of G's new 40th-anniversary logo.

Continued on page 2



PHOTO BY SAM KOSKOWSKI

## Season's greetings!

Wishing all U of G faculty, staff and students at all our campuses and research stations across the province a happy holiday and all the very best for 2004. Thanks to each of you for helping make 2003 a wonderfully successful year for the University of Guelph.

Alastair and Catherine Summerlee

## U of G Physicists to Benefit From New SNOLAB

\$39-million expansion of Sudbury Neutrino Observatory will open doors to more international collaboration

**U**OF G RESEARCHERS will benefit from a nearly \$39-million investment announced Dec. 1 by the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) for a new international facility for underground science. The CFI funding will transform the existing Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO) into a world-class astrophysics research facility called SNOLAB.

U of G scientists helped design

and build the sophisticated instruments for SNO, a neutrino telescope the size of a 10-storey building that is located two kilometres underground in a mine near Sudbury. Built as an experiment and headed by Carleton University, SNO relies on heavy water to detect neutrinos from the sun and other astrophysical objects and measure their properties.

In 2001, SNO researchers solved the mystery of solar neutrinos that

had baffled scientists since the early 1970s. This September, they confirmed their earlier findings that two-thirds of the electron-type neutrinos produced by nuclear reactions in the core of the sun change to other types of neutrinos — muon and tau neutrinos — before reaching Earth.

U of G researchers were involved in both phases of data collection, and Prof. Jimmy Law, a nuclear physicist, helped write and test the software

used to analyze the data generated.

Guelph will also participate in new research at the SNOLAB facility. The expansion will transform the original experiment into a permanent installation that will include new underground experimental halls and surface laboratories.

SNO, which involves more than 130 researchers, "has been a very successful international collaboration of physicists from Canada, the

United States and the United Kingdom," says Law. "SNOLAB opens up international collaboration even more by providing a home for any international group of scientists who need to run an experiment that will push the frontier of physics, shielded from the flotsam and jetsam of space."

The first SNO report had deep implications for physics theory

Continued on page 14

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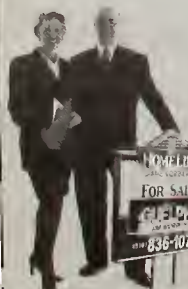
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## Boeckner Named Executive Director, Hospitality Services

**D**AVE BOECKNER, director of Hospitality Services since 1996, has been named executive director of Hospitality Services, effective Jan. 1. He succeeds Garry Round, who retires from the University Dec. 31 and who had simultaneously held the position of executive director of Physical Resources from 1996.

"With the unprecedented growth in the campus population and the largest construction boom since the University was established, it has become apparent that responsibility

for both Physical Resources and Hospitality Services can no longer be combined under a single individual," says Nancy Sullivan, vice-president (finance and administration).

"Accordingly, the administrative structure is reverting back to one in which a senior administrator is responsible for each operation."

The position of executive director of Physical Resources has been filled since Nov. 1 by Bob Carter, former director of facilities management at Dalhousie University.

Boeckner joined Hospitality Services in 1977 and has assumed increasing responsibility at the managerial level since then. Sullivan notes that throughout his career, "Hospitality Services has become recognized as a leader in Canada for the provision of high-quality leading-edge food services and creative concepts that are often adopted by other Canadian universities."

In his new senior role, Boeckner will report to John Miles, whose title will become assistant vice-president (finance and services).

## Strategic Planning to Build on Strengths of Collège d'Alfred

**U**OF G and the Conseil communautaire du Collège d'Alfred have launched a strategic planning process that will include expanding the post-secondary programs available in French.

"This ambitious project will build on the strengths of Guelph's French-language campus, especially the community linkages developed by Alfred College since its creation in 1980," says Prof. Maureen Mancuso, acting provost and vice-president (academic).

The strategic plan will explore the expansion of existing diplomas in agricultural technology, food and nutrition, environment and international development into the field of bioresource management, including the possibility of offering degree courses.

"Our goal is to create a campus that teaches and models the use of bioresources in our everyday lives, while reducing the impact humans are having on the environment," says OAC dean Craig Pearson.

Collège d'Alfred director Gilbert

Héroux adds that the new directions will broaden the college's appeal and increase student numbers.

"We also have the potential to serve an increasing number of students through distance education in those fields of study," he says.

The new courses reflect the strategic direction developed by the Conseil communautaire du Collège d'Alfred for an expansion of the traditional programming in agriculture and food to include new areas of interest to society, he adds.

In putting forward the new joint vision for its Alfred campus, U of G has three fundamental goals:

- maintaining and enhancing the francophone character of the campus and establishing new and creative partnerships with other French-language institutions;
- developing a distinctive post-secondary program with an academic focus on teaching skills that embrace a more holistic, nature-centred approach to resource management education; and
- promoting the national and inter-

national appeal of the campus through this new vision of bioresource education and research.

Enrolment projections at Alfred will depend on the range of specific programs available, but the University is planning to serve up to 1,000 students in the next five to seven years, says Pearson.

The strategic planning process will also include analysis and assessment, programming reviews, market studies and consultation, as well as considerations of facilities and location, staffing, budgeting and financing. The process will culminate in the release of a report next spring.

"As part of the planning process, we are suggesting adding elements of programming that reflect the interest and expertise of the University and OAC," says Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research). "At the same time, we want to highlight the many ways that activities at Alfred can contribute to our university's long-standing mission of having faculty, staff and students transform discoveries into value."

## Guide a Valuable Tool

*Continued from page 1*

"Use the 40th logo to show your pride in the University," invites C&PA director Chuck Cunningham. "Providing access to this new graphic image is just one way the online graphic standards guide will become a valuable tool for the University community."

Policies and recommendations outlined in the guide apply to all U of G departments and divisions, as well

as external organizations that are approved users of the University's graphic images, he adds.

"University communicators especially will want to bookmark the URL because there will be ongoing updates and additions to the graphic guide. And if you have any questions or suggestions related to the University's graphic guidelines, please use the website link to contact us."

**We did it!!**



**We've hit our goal:  
\$285,000.  
Thank you, U of G donors.**

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**UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH**

**MASS E-MAIL POLICY AVAILABLE ON WEB**

A new U of G policy on mass e-mail will be available on the web at [www.uoguelph.ca/info/massemail](http://www.uoguelph.ca/info/massemail) starting today. The policy was developed by a working group struck by U of G's Information Services Committee (ISC) in response to a growing number of requests from University members to distribute e-mail messages campus-wide. The policy has been approved by the ISC and the President's Advisory Council.

**STUDENTS RAISE \$20,000 TO FIGHT LOCAL HUNGER**

U of G students have donated more than \$20,000 from their meal plans to the national student-run Meal Exchange charity to help fight hunger in Guelph and surrounding areas. "This is the most a Canadian student body has ever raised for Meal Exchange in one semester," says U of G program co-ordinator Annie Benko. Facilitated by Hospitality Services, the meal plan donations provided more than 10,000 pounds of food that was delivered by students last week to 15 local organizations such as the Food Bank and the Drop-in Centre.

**ORGANIC CONFERENCE SET**

The 23rd annual Guelph Organic Conference runs Jan. 22 to 25 on campus. The conference will feature more than 30 workshops, seminars and expert panels, as well as an organic trade show and sampling fair to be held on three levels of the University Centre. Keynote speaker is George Simpson, CEO of Organic Valley, a U.S. organic farmer co-operative marketing enterprise. More details are available on the web at [www.guelphorganicconf.ca](http://www.guelphorganicconf.ca). In conjunction with the conference, the University will host the first Conference for Social Research in Organic Agriculture Jan. 23 from 9 a.m. to noon. For information, visit [www.uwindsor.ca/organicconf](http://www.uwindsor.ca/organicconf).

**APPOINTMENTS**

Mario Monteiro was appointed assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry Sept. 1.

Stephanie Nykamp joined the Department of Clinical Studies as an assistant professor Sept. 15.

Vladimir Ladizhansky was appointed assistant professor in the Department of Physics Nov. 1.

Prof. Steve Leeson has been appointed chair of the Department of Animal and Poultry Science for a five-year period that begins Jan. 1.

Kari Dunfield of Maine will join the Department of Land Resource Science as an assistant professor Jan. 1.

Ricardo Ramirez will join the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development as an assistant professor Jan. 1.

Karen Gordon will join the School of Engineering Jan. 1, initially as a lecturer, then as an assistant professor on completion of her PhD.

# Grounds Aims to Cut Salt Use

*New techniques, products designed to keep winter ice at bay while reducing damage*

**T**OO MUCH SALT isn't good for your health, and it's not good for the brick walkways, the tunnels or the vegetation on campus either. The Grounds Department is working to reduce the damaging effects of salt by adopting new techniques and products to keep ice at bay, says John Reinhart, manager of Grounds. The changes could cut salt use by as much as 50 per cent.

Grounds will no longer be using plain rock salt, says Reinhart. From now on, it will be treated first with a solution of magnesium chloride and Calibre (a product made from corn) to make the salt work more quickly and effectively, so that less can be used. The treatment will turn the granules blue.

The treated salt works even better — up to four times more effectively — when it is "pre-wetted" with the magnesium chloride/Calibre solution right before it hits the ground, says Reinhart. Grounds will accomplish this with a new dump truck that has computerized controls to reduce the chance of over-application.

The magnesium chloride/Calibre solution, which has been used on Wellington County roads for a number of years, "is more environmentally friendly and doesn't even start to freeze until -65 C," says Reinhart, adding that it will enable the salt to stick to the road better and start working faster.

One trackless U of G vehicle that in the past dispensed granular rock salt is now equipped to spray the magnesium chloride/Calibre solution directly on to walkways. This solution could be put down up to seven days before a storm occurs to prevent snow and ice from bonding



Grounds machinery operator Ken Kron poses with a new dump truck that will help the University reduce the amount of salt it uses in winter weather. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

to the surface, he says.

"It will give us additional coverage between shifts, help prevent snow pack in busy areas, act on brick walkways immediately — they freeze first and are very difficult to get to in time — and protect our plants and weakening structures, particularly the tunnels, that are corroded by salt."

Thirty-five bins of treated salt

mixed with sand are also ready to go. In addition, Grounds crews spread potassium chloride on steps as another salt alternative.

As with any new approach, Grounds staff will be watching closely to make sure their efforts are working, says Reinhart. Anyone with concerns about icy situations on campus is invited to call Ext. 52006.

BY STACEY CURRY GUNN

## Turn to Radio, Web in Winter

**W**HEN A WINTER STORM hits and you need to know if the University is open before setting off for work, the best information sources are the radio and U of G's home page, says Nancy Sullivan, vice-president (finance and administration). Radio stations in Guelph, Kitchener-Waterloo and Toronto are immediately notified if the president decides to shut U of G because of bad weather or an emergency, she says.

In addition, area TV stations are notified of any closure, says Sullivan, and U of G's home page will contain up-to-date information on the weather situation and will be updated regularly as required. The campus switchboard will also have a recorded message about the closure, but if you try calling in, you'll probably find the line jammed with other people trying to get through.

The president or a designate decides whether to close the University or restrict activities on the basis of a combination of factors, including the amount of snow, the weather forecast and road conditions. The decision is made on the advice of the VP (finance and administration) after consulting with the executive di-

rector of Physical Resources and the director of Security Services. If possible, U of G will consult with other institutions in the area, local police and transportation services and area weather information services.

If the president decides to close the University, the VP (finance and administration) advises the executive director of Physical Resources and the director of Communications and Public Affairs (C&PA), who initiates the closing procedures. If the closure is outside regular business hours, action will be taken before 7 a.m. to contact radio and TV stations, post information on the web and inform Telecommunications Services to change the switchboard greeting. If the closure occurs during regular business hours, additional steps will be taken wherever possible to notify key campus units by telephone and all departments via fax broadcast and the web. If possible, a one-hour lead time will be given to ensure orderly cessation of activities.

Messages will also be posted on library terminals and main entrances to University buildings, advising students and staff to monitor local radio and TV stations.

The director of C&PA will also

check the University's web calendar, and organizers of any events or large gatherings planned for that day or evening will be informed of the decision to close whenever possible.

With the exception of the essential services defined in the procedures, a campus closing is firm and not left to the discretion of individuals or departments unless special arrangements are made with the president or designate. Staff members designated to provide essential services in the following units will normally be notified before Oct. 1 of each year: Animal-Care Services, Laboratory Services, Child-Care Services, Computing and Communications Services, Hospitality Services, on-campus animal units, Physical Resources, Research Station Operations, Security Services, Student Health Services, Student Housing Services, Telecommunications Services/switchboard and the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Only those designated by their supervisors as essential services staff are to come to work in the event of a closure.

U of G's policy on inclement weather/emergency procedures is on the web at [www.uoguelph.ca/HR/hrmanual/512.htm](http://www.uoguelph.ca/HR/hrmanual/512.htm).

## PEOPLE

**HEROLD ELECTED FELLOW FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO RESEARCH**

Prof. Ed Herold, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, was elected a Fellow of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality for his significant research contributions in the science of sexuality. This fall, he was invited to give research presentations at Indiana University and at the Institute of Human Sexuality in San Francisco.

**ENGINEER ON LECTURE TOUR**

University professor emeritus Bill James, School of Engineering, has been appointed national lecturer by the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers (CSCE). He is touring all major centres in Canada, speaking to local branches of the CSCE. His talk is titled "On Countering the Undesirable Effects of Humankind on the Water Environment."

**STUDENT-ATHLETE HONOURED**

Brooke Hilditch, a recent B.Sc. graduate of Guelph's biomedical sciences program, was one of 18 OUA scholar-athletes honoured last month as part of the Chairelaine Women of Influence Luncheon Series in Toronto. She was recognized for her academic excellence and her contributions to Gryphon rugby and wrestling during her four years at Guelph.

**FIRST CIBC AWARD FOR WORK-TERM REPORT EXCELLENCE PRESENTED**

Adam White, a third-year student in computing and information science (CIS), is the first recipient of the CIBC Technology and Operations Work-Term Report Excellence Award. The award was created to instill a pursuit of excellence in communication abilities by CIS students in completing their work-term reports. White wrote about his experiences at Sybase (iAnywhere) Inc. in Waterloo.

**OAC STUDENT NAMED GRAND CHAMPION AT THE ROYAL**

Fourth-year B.Sc.(Agr.) student John Werry was named Canada's Grand Champion 4-H dairy showman at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair last month. He was competing in the 2003 Scotiabank Hays Classic, which attracted more than 350 4-H members representing 50-plus provincial and county teams.

**ART FACULTY GIVE TALKS**

Several members of the School of Fine Art and Music have given talks recently. Prof. Susan Dobson spoke on "Making a Living in the Arts" and "Jumping Geographic Barriers" at Visual Arts Ontario's annual "Business for Artists" seminar at Nipissing University. Prof. John Kissick presented the paper "Navigating Change in Today's Art School" at the National Council of Arts Administrators Conference in Memphis. Prof. Susan Douglas presented "Under the Radar: Glimpses of Art at the Global Level" at the Universities Art Association of Canada's annual conference in Kingston.

# TOWARD 2010

**Editor's note:** This is part of an ongoing series designed to introduce new faculty to the University community.

## AARON BERG

*Assistant professor, Department of Geography*

**Background:** B.Sc. and M.Sc., University of Lethbridge; MS (geological sciences), University of Texas Austin; PhD (earth system science), University of California, Irvine.

**Teaching objectives:** I plan to develop (and integrate already established) web-based resources together with my classroom and lab instruction. I hope that by developing and adopting many online resources, I can encourage much higher class participation rates and potentially minimize the number of students left behind.

**Research objectives:** My research focuses on understanding the interactions between climate and land surface hydrologic states and fluxes. To do this, I use land surface process models together with physical and remotely sensed observations.

## OLAF BERKE

*Assistant professor, Department of Population Medicine*

**Background:** Dipl.-Stat. and Dr. rer. nat. (doctorate in natural sciences), University of Dortmund, Germany.

**Teaching objectives:** I teach "Statistical Methods in the Health Sciences" and like to emphasize applications and strategies for problem solving, rather than the theoretical background. My choice of methods and examples is largely based on consultative work with graduate students and on research projects.

**Research objectives:** I have done research in the field of spatial and spatiotemporal data analysis, with

applications in environmetrics and in ecological, wildlife and veterinary sciences. More recently, I have focused on zoonotic diseases such as *Echinococcus multilocularis* infections in foxes and *E. coli* infections in humans. I have also studied Aujeszky's disease in pigs.

cussion and an informal lecture style, as well as projects that require students to participate and work together. If I could, I would abolish grades; they take the fun out of learning.

**Research objectives:** My research program has two main thrusts, both

## LORI JONES

*Assistant professor, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry*

**Background:** B.Sc., University of New Brunswick; PhD, U of G

**Teaching objectives:** I plan to use the literature on chemistry miscon-

cation. I will be exploring new pedagogical approaches, especially within the areas of assessment and the use of technology, to improve the teaching and learning of chemistry.

## DEBORAH ROOT

*Assistant professor, School of Fine Art and Music*

**Background:** BA (archeology), Simon Fraser University; MA (anthropology), University of Alberta; PhD (social and political thought), York University

**Teaching objectives:** My teaching goal is to provide students with a strong interdisciplinary framework through which to examine and interpret images.

**Research objectives:** My current research investigates the arts of pre-Cortesian Mesoamerica, focusing on the relation of esthetics to imperial authority. I am particularly interested in how Mexican or Aztec art practices reflected social and political agendas, and how this was understood by European colonizers and the post-colonial Mexican state.

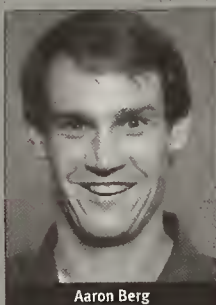
## RON STANSFIELD

*Associate professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology*

**Background:** B.Sc. (psychology), McMaster University; MA (criminology), University of Toronto; PhD (sociology), York University

**Teaching objectives:** I am introducing the concepts of evidence-based practice and problem-based and experiential learning, as well as a case study approach, in my capacity as co-ordinator of, and instructor in, the justice studies program at the University of Guelph-Humber.

**Research objectives:** My goals are to determine the level of moral reasoning of justice studies students and to develop an effective ethics training program for them.



Aaron Berg



Olaf Berke



Susan Glasauer



Lori Jones



Deborah Root



Ron Stansfield

## SUSAN GLASAUER

*Assistant professor, Department of Land Resource Science*

**Background:** B.Sc. (plant and soil biology) and M.Sc. (soil chemistry), University of California at Berkeley; PhD (geochemistry), Technical University of Munich, Germany

**Teaching objectives:** I hope to implement old methods of open dis-

operating at the intersection between micro-organisms and rocks. The first is to increase our understanding of early (prehistoric) life and how it affected the geological structures of the Earth. The second is to decipher how micro-organisms mediate the formation and breakdown of minerals, with applications to bioremediation and nutrient availability.

ceptions to help develop more effective teaching materials. I also plan to conduct classroom research where both my students and I are actively engaged in the collaborative study of learning. Through this, I hope to learn how to be a more effective teacher while helping my students become more effective learners.

**Research objectives:** My research focus is in the area of chemical edu-

# Duo Hatches New Idea for Teaching Cell Biology

OAC PhD candidate and grad are designing educational software intended to take students on a virtual interactive learning trip inside a cell

THERE HAD TO BE an easier way. OAC PhD candidate Jason Deveau and recent PhD graduate Jeremy Friedberg believe they've hit on a better idea for teaching complex and abstract concepts in cell biology that routinely bedevil undergraduates and frustrate their professors.

The pair is currently designing educational software intended to take students on a virtual interactive learning trip inside a cell. They're so convinced there's a ready market among biology students and instructors that they've formed a company to market the product — once they finish developing it.

The idea grew out of their shared frustration with conventional 2-D print illustrations and rudimentary software currently used to teach often-abstruse concepts in cell and molecular biology to undergraduates, says Deveau, who is completing his PhD this fall. Friedberg, his business partner and former fellow executive member of the Graduate Students' Association, earned a PhD this summer.

Over a beer in the Graduate Student

Lounge two years ago, they hatched the idea for a sophisticated computer-based package that would take users on a virtual tour of cellular structures and functions.

"If a picture is worth a thousand words, an animated model has got to be worth a million," says Deveau.

A self-confessed fan of the children's TV science program *The Magic Schoolbus*, he says the proposed package would effectively shrink users for an inside look at a cell. Students would be able to click from one place to another to investigate cellular parts and their functions. "We treat the cellular environment just like a big lab," he says.

Because the virtual cell would appear three-dimensional, users could rotate inside it and get a better sense of structures and how they work, says Prof. Michael Lindinger, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences. He likes the proposed software's learner-driven approach and says an instructor of cell biology "would also likely find it a useful tool in the classroom, enhancing the ability to explain

three-dimensional relationships."

A professor teaching introductory cell biology might use the package to display cellular processes on an overhead screen during a lecture. The instructor might also ask students to use the software at home to watch the effects of increasing temperature, changing pH or adding various substances to the cell or to study such processes as cell division or metabolism.

Deveau and Friedberg envision developing software that will give users access to a central web server containing the module and associated literature, which means a student or instructor could dial up the package from a desktop or laptop anywhere.

Using Friedberg's computer skills and their combined background in molecular genetics and cell physiology, they're designing a demonstration module that they hope to test next summer here at Guelph. Biomedical illustrators at the Sheridan College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning are helping develop animations for the package.

They plan to market the product — proba-

bly to be called Cellscape Explorer — through departments at Guelph and other universities. Besides developing a series of cell biology modules for university students, they might also consider tailoring the package for college or high school classes.

This fall, they formed a company called vive ("virtual in vivo education") Technologies Inc. Although it's an independent firm, they're currently working out of an office donated by OAC in Johnston Hall.

Both principals believe their product will help students get a clearer, three-dimensional sense of the cell — critical, they say, for visual learners. Friedberg recalls struggling with conventional text and 2-D illustrations that were staples early in his undergraduate years. Only in a third-year exam did he get a chance to build a genetic model instead of answering the usual multiple-choice questions. "I had never done so well in school with so little effort," he says.

For more information, check out their website at [www.vivetechnologies.com](http://www.vivetechnologies.com).

BY ANDREW VOWLES

# How Much Metal Can Your Stomach?

New testing method makes food safety easier to digest



Michael Waisberg and Anne-Marie Landis are studying the uptake of cadmium, a carcinogenic metal commonly found in food, using a new process that simulates human digestion and nutrient absorption.

PHOTO BY PAULA BIALSKI

**H**ERE'S SOME RESEARCH that's easy to digest, because it doesn't have to take place in your stomach. U of G researchers say a method of growing human intestinal cells in a flask can simulate digestion and help scientists monitor safe levels of toxins that are in foods we eat every day.

Research assistant Anne-Marie Landis and Michael Waisberg, a graduate student in toxicology and land resource science, are using a flask-based or in vitro method of studying cadmium levels in foods — without using a live subject.

In their study, the two will grow a single layer of intestinal cells in a flask to provide a fast and inexpensive method of detecting metals transported into an organism and to potentially reduce animal testing in toxicology and food-safety research.

"Cadmium is very relevant to humans, which is why we decided to study it," says Waisberg. "The metal is carcinogenic and is present in many foods, including shellfish, liver and all sorts of grains — foods we eat every day."

Although the in vitro method has been used for testing drugs in the pharmaceutical industry, Waisberg and Landis are among the first to use it to simulate a digestive system.

"There's a lot of negative sentiment surrounding animal rights and the scientific community," says Landis. "I don't think we'll see an end to animal testing, but in vitro methods like this one have the potential to decrease the number of animals that are being used in these studies."

This cell-growing process involves live human intestinal cells obtained from a cell bank. Called "immortal cells" because of their transformed nature, they are placed in a flask and naturally reproduce to form a thin single layer of cells or "monolayer," which simulates the intestine.

A cadmium-containing food that has been digested in the laboratory using stomach solution is then placed in the flask with the monolayer. The cadmium in the food naturally moves itself through the cell monolayer, simulating what happens in the latter stages of the digestive process, when nutrients and elements (such as cadmium) are broken down and absorbed through the intestine.

Waisberg and Landis are using lettuce as a cadmium-containing model food, but they say the study could essentially work with any food.

"If we can understand how much cadmium is being digested, we can set limits for the amount that can be absorbed by an organism," Waisberg says.

Prof. Bev Hale and Deb Chan of the Department of Land Resource Science are also involved in this research, which is being funded by the Collaborative Health Research Program (the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research) and the Canadian Network of Toxicology Centres.

BY PAULA BIALSKI  
SPARK PROGRAM

## the science of life the art of living

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

### Guelph Grads Remember Their Alma Mater With Gifts

**M**OTIVATED BY HIS own professional life and the desire to encourage future Guelph graduates, Jim Dick, B.Sc.(Agr.) '71, M.Sc. '81 and PhD '88, has joined other members of his 1971 OAC class in supporting U of G's plan to build a new crop biotechnology centre.

Dick and his wife, Judy, a 1971 graduate of Macdonald Institute, say their Guelph education has been key to their career success, and they want to recognize the value of their degrees.

Their \$100,000 campaign gift has been designated to OAC's priority project, the Agricultural Plant Biotechnology and Biocomputing Centre.

Judy Dick is a family studies graduate who went on to become a teacher. Jim Dick earned Guelph degrees in agriculture, environmental biology and horticulture, leading to a career in agricultural research management in the food industry. He is retired from Kraft Canada Inc. Their son, Adam, is just finishing up a B.Sc. in physical sciences at Guelph.

An unexpected letter received last March from Douglas Kennedy, BSA '39, included a cheque for \$50,000 and a note: "Would you please place this in the endowment fund for University of Guelph purposes. My wife and I met at a 'hop' here in 1937. Still together."

Kathleen Kennedy also graduated in 1939, earning a diploma from Macdonald Institute. The couple's surprise gift to the University was used to endow two scholarship awards that recognize the Kennedys' time on campus and their 66-year relationship.

Douglas Kennedy died in May, but Kathleen was recognized and thanked at a U of G undergraduate scholarship event held in October, accompanied by her daughter and son-in-law, Sue, B.H.Sc. '63, and Robert Rogers.

Beginning in fall 2004, the Douglas and Kathleen Kennedy scholarships will provide annual awards of \$1,000 each to students enrolled in OAC and the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences who demonstrate high academic excellence and financial need.

### Parasitologists Honour Prof

*OVC pathobiologist's work 'brings parasitology into the 21st century'*

**I**T WASN'T SO LONG AGO that parasites — minuscule plants or animals that live on or in other living things — were classified solely according to physical traits such as their shapes and sizes. When Prof. John Barta, Pathobiology, first read a paper about novel research using DNA-based approaches to determine the relationships between malaria and other parasites, he saw a need for more work on the topic.

"The paper said such ludicrous things that they couldn't possibly be right," he remembers. "The only way to tell was to get more information."

That was in 1987.

Now, Barta has been honoured for his role in using molecular sequencing to classify parasites. He received the H.B. Ward Medal — one of the most prestigious honours worldwide for a parasitologist — at the American Society of Parasitologists' annual conference in August.

This isn't the first time a U of G faculty member has received the award. The late Roy Anderson, a former chair of the Department of Zoology, was honoured in 1968.

The award recognizes a researcher who has attained a position of leadership in parasitological research.

"John's work brings parasitology into the 21st century," says Dr. John Prescott, chair of the Department of Pathobiology. "His work has helped bring clarity to a difficult and controversial area. You can get into fist fights arguing about what things look like, but when you go back to the DNA, the evolutionary material, you can't argue with it."

Barta offers this simple description of parasites and their astounding ability to spread infection and disease: "Animal hosts for parasites are like moving ecosystems. They have defences on the inside and the

outside, and once they fight a parasite, they remember how to best attack it, should it return. In response, parasites have co-evolved remarkable adaptations to avoid these defences and infect their hosts."

Knowing as much as possible about these adaptations is critical in developing vaccines, he says.

Classifying parasites using DNA-based approaches allows researchers to predict the behaviour of newly discovered parasites by comparing their genetic makeup with that of parasites that are well-known and well-studied.

"It's a highly predictive science," he says. "Finding out what a parasite is related to genetically can help determine what host it's likely to infect. The real value is in giving you a good framework to work on poorly known life cycles."

BY KAREN GALLANT, OVC

### UGAA Seeks Award Nominees

**T**HE U OF G Alumni Association (UGAA) invites nominations for its three annual awards of excellence — Alumnus of Honour, Alumni Medal of Achievement and Alumni Volunteer Award.

The Alumnus of Honour award celebrates the achievements of alumni who have brought great honour to their alma mater through professional, community and personal endeavours. The Alumni Medal of Achievement recognizes a graduate of the last 15 years who has achieved excellence through contributions to country, community, profession or the world of arts and letters. The Alumni Volunteer Award honours alumni who have demonstrated loyalty and commitment to their alma

mater by supporting U of G through volunteer work.

Nomination forms for these awards are available from the UGAA through Alumni Affairs and Development at alumni.uguelph.ca or by calling Ext. 56934. The nomination deadline is Jan. 30. All nominations should be submitted to the UGAA Honours and Awards Committee, c/o Alumni House.

Nominations are also sought for the OVC Distinguished Alumnus award, which recognizes an OVC graduate who has brought honour to the college and other Guelph alumni through leadership and service to country, science, education, profession or alma mater. Nominations should be submitted by Jan. 30 to the

OVC Alumni Association, directed to the attention of committee chair Grant Scherer, c/o Melanie D'Aloia, OVC's manager of alumni affairs. To request a nomination form for this award, call Ext. 54430 or send e-mail to ovc@uoguelph.ca.

In addition, the Hafa Alumni Association seeks nominees for the George Bedell Award of Excellence, which is presented to a graduate who best represents the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management in professionalism, achievement and contributions to the hospitality industry. Nominations are due Feb. 27 and should be submitted to committee chair Jeff Dover, c/o Laurie Malleau, Alumni House. For details, call Malleau at Ext. 52102.

# Owl Deaths Could Hold Clues to Fighting West Nile

*Virus caused mass mortality in northern owl species at Vineland sanctuary, but southern species came through virtually unscathed*

**P**ROF. BRUCE HUNTER, Pathobiology, wasn't thinking about West Nile virus when a long-established owl sanctuary in Vineland called him in the summer of 2002 to run tests on three dead birds. He thought the culprit might be the herpes virus. But testing showed the owls had succumbed to the same virus that had made headlines in central Canada for its effects on other wildlife and on human health.

Any relief at having nailed the problem was short-lived. Knowing what was decimating the birds at the Owl Foundation was of little value if there was nothing anyone could do to halt the deaths. Although Hunter promptly inoculated the other birds at the centre with a vaccine developed for horses, he says the virus had already spread.

Out of 245 owls, 101 died of West Nile virus between July and September. "It was the first and biggest outbreak in owls in Canada and likely the biggest in North America," he says.

The outbreak also posed a conundrum, one that has led to a current research project involving the wildlife veterinarian and his graduate student Ady Gancz. They noticed that the deaths had involved a select group among the facility's 16 species of North American owls.

Northern species were the ones with massive mortality, says Hunter. The disease wiped out 90 per cent of the representatives of five species: great grey owl, northern hawk owl, boreal owl, snowy owl and saw-whet owl.

More southerly species such as eastern screech owls, barn owls and burrowing owls had been infected by the virus but came through virtually unscathed. Among the species whose natural range covered the middle of

North America, such as the great horned owl, death rates appeared to rise along with increasing latitude.

Hunter hopes to learn why more northern than southern species died and why the survivors that had been exposed to the virus showed greater resistance to it. That kind of information might help in combating the effects of the virus in animals and people alike.

The researchers have vaccinated groups of both northern and southern species with various antigens to look for differences in immune responses.

"I'm interested in developing new treatments for diseases," says Gancz, a longtime birder and a clinician in avian and exotic pets

working on his D.V.Sc. He arrived at Guelph from his native Israel in August 2002, more or less in the middle of that summer's outbreak.

Hunter says it's possible the mortality pattern at the Vineland centre will be mirrored among birds in the wild, although no one has tracked the incidence of West Nile virus in wild owls. Broadening the scope across the entire northern and southern hemispheres, he says: "We know that extreme southern and northern species are very susceptible to pathogens that birds around here are resistant to. West Nile virus might prove to be a useful model in understanding some of these host-parasite adaptations."

He acknowledges that susceptibility to the

disease must involve more than breeding range alone. Just look at the widespread deaths among crows, a sentinel species that the disease has killed in fairly indiscriminate fashion across North America.

Hunter says another "wrinkle" in the Vineland die-off is that many owls at the centre were bitten by hippoboscids, a kind of biting louse fly that had not been implicated in West Nile virus disease before last year. He and Gancz hope to learn whether the virus reproduces in the fly or whether it's simply passed among birds bitten by the flies, information that might prove important in modelling and understanding how the disease spreads in wild birds.

Hunter, a specialist in the pathology of wildlife diseases, especially in birds, started the OVC Wild Bird Clinic at U of G in the mid-1980s. He has been a longtime consulting veterinarian to the Owl Foundation, a one-of-a-kind rehabilitation, breeding and study centre for injured wild birds that was established by Kay McKeever and her late husband, Larry.

"Needless to say, I was devastated," says McKeever, who had begun breeding the five northern species. She lost 93 out of 98 northern owls, including young that had hatched earlier that summer. "This was my whole breeding program gone down in flames."

The owls are housed in outdoor cages spread over two acres. Until last summer, the collection included representatives of all 15 Canadian owl species. McKeever has since installed mosquito screening on many cages and has built a mosquito-proof isolation unit for newly acquired northern species.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

## Vet, Medical Students Team Up

**D**ISEASED OWLS aren't the only thing that has taken pathobiology professor Bruce Hunter to Vineland in recent months.

This fall, he took four senior undergraduates to the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources rabies research unit in the Niagara Peninsula for an inaugural teaching module that married veterinary and human medicine. The veterinary students were teamed up with medical students from the University of Western Ontario to work on a case study of raccoon rabies and human health.

Hunter added the week-long module this summer for students taking a long-established ecosystem health course. The latter, offered for the past 11 years, brings together four Guelph students and

counterparts from Canada's other three veterinary schools each fall for two or three weeks of studying animal and environmental health issues. This fall, after the U of G students returned from the ecosystem health course, they continued to Vineland for the new module.

Hunter says he believes this is the first such pairing between veterinary and medical schools.

"Cases such as raccoon rabies or diseases like West Nile virus become wonderful models for teaching concepts of ecosystem health because they highlight the need for collaboration from a wide variety of professions and demonstrate the complexity of these sorts of issues."



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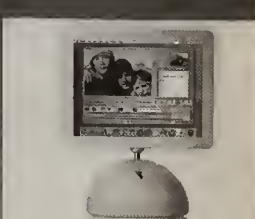
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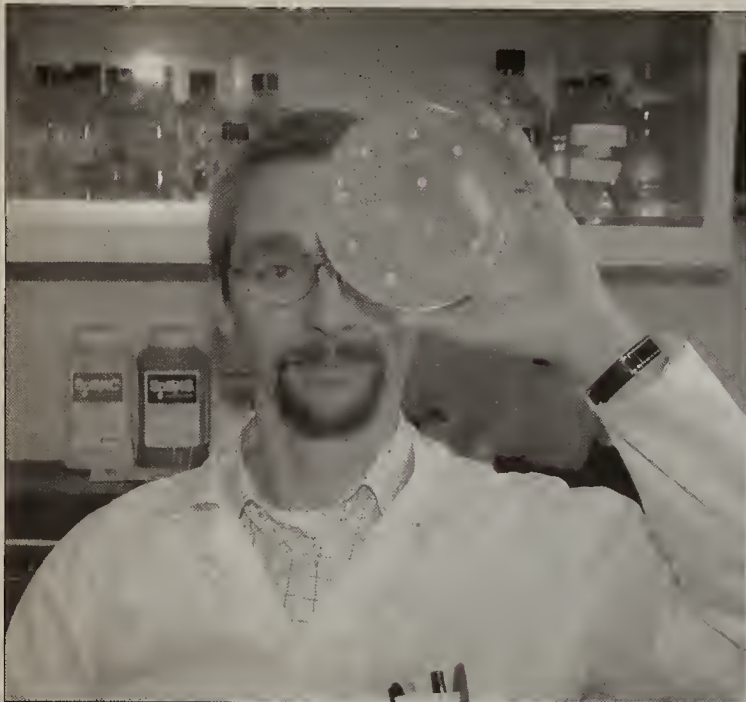
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# The Race Against Microbes

CFI support will help OVC prof understand how and why bacterial resistance evolves



Prof. Patrick Boerlin holds a nutrient agar plate similar to those routinely used for standardized antimicrobial susceptibility testing in medical and veterinary microbiology diagnostic labs. He studies bacterial resistance to antibiotics and ways of developing better treatments and prevention strategies. PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

THE "HOT TOPIC" of antimicrobial resistance and bacterial virulence will come under the microscope of Prof. Patrick Boerlin, Pathobiology, who has been awarded \$124,800 from the Canada Foundation for Innovation to buy lab equipment designed to help him learn more about bacterial population genetics and molecular epidemiology.

Understanding how and why bacterial resistance evolves is key to tracking the emergence of new pathogens and helping to keep ahead of microbes in the race to develop more efficacious treatments and prevention strategies, he says.

Boerlin, who arrived at Guelph just over a year ago, is particularly interested in disease pathogens of livestock. Among others, he has studied new strains of *E. coli* that can threaten food safety and cause disease in humans. Along with departmental colleague and former grad supervisor Prof. Carlton Gyles, he's studying the link between virulence and resistance in a form of *E. coli* that causes diarrhea in pigs. "It's a big problem in Ontario," he says.

Boerlin is also collaborating with OVC colleagues on so-called nosocomial infections, which are acquired by animal patients in veterinary clinics and hospitals. Just as people can pick up various infections while in hospital, animals such as dogs and cats are susceptible, particularly to surgical wound infections or urinary tract infections, often caused by antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

"We're using molecular evolution methods to look at the evolution of infectious agents," he says.

"People usually work on how bacteria are virulent. I'm interested in how virulence evolves."

Virulence and anti-microbial resistance can be linked, as it's often the more nasty strains of bacteria that manage to elude veterinary drugs through seemingly ingenious means.

"One of the fascinating things about bacteria is that there's no sexual reproduction and they're still able to exchange genetic material," Boerlin says.

That exchange can happen in several ways, including transfer of plasmids, or small pieces of DNA, from one bug to another or even through sharing of naked DNA itself after one bacterium has been lysed apart. Through transduction, viruses also pick up and transmit bacterial DNA.

"We can't stop the exchange, but we can try to manage it and fight the consequences," he says.

Boerlin's research brings together molecular epidemiology — using molecular biology methods to differentiate and track bacterial strains — and the more theoretical realm of population genetics, or the study of genetic diversity.

He was attracted to Guelph in fall 2002 by the prospect of working with other veterinary epidemiologists and geneticists both on and off campus, including researchers at the Laboratory for Foodborne Zoonoses, Health Canada and perhaps the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

With his new CFI funding, Boerlin will buy a liquid handling robot for working with hundreds of samples of genetic material at a time — easily, accurately and consistently.

He'll also buy specialized electrophoresis units and software for analyzing data.

"It's a dream come true," he says. "It's allowing us to work at a much higher level."

Boerlin completed his master's degree in epidemiology in 1998 in the Department of Population Medicine, studying the evolution of toxigenic *E. coli* strains with Gyles and Prof. Scott McEwen. Most of his study and recent work occurred at the University of Bern in Switzerland, where he received \$300,000 from the national science foundation to work on *E. coli* and antimicrobial resistance.

His fascination with the variety and ubiquity of microbes extends to other living things that he studies not through the microscope but through the camera lens. An amateur birder, he began nature photography as an undergraduate. Several of his pieces won prizes and honourable mentions in contests, and he was formerly president of the Swiss Association of Nature Photography and interim president of the International Federation of Wildlife Photography.

Along with his wife and fellow camera buff, Franziska, a parasitologist, he has taken his Nikon into the fields and forests of Ontario, including Killarney Provincial Park. Several arresting shots of landscapes and wildlife adorn his office wall and flash up as screen savers on his computer monitor.

Asked about connections between vocation and avocation, he nods and says: "It's the diversity of nature."

BY ANDREW VOWLES

# Henry to Head International Chemistry Union

Prof is only the second Canadian to serve as president

THE CHEMISTRY in Ottawa was right for Prof. Bryan Henry. This summer, the longtime faculty member in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry capped a lengthy record of national and international service in his field with his election as vice-president and president-elect of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC).

He will serve a two-year term as vice-president, then become president for two years beginning in 2006. He is only the second Canadian to be elected IUPAC president since the organization was established in 1919.

"It's a tremendous honour," says the former department chair who is recognized as one of Canada's leading physical chemists. "It's undoubtedly the biggest job I've ever had."

Henry was elected during a joint general assembly and international congress held in Ottawa in August; he served as scientific program chair for the congress.

Based in Research Triangle Park, N.C., IUPAC is a non-governmental organization that includes 65 countries and aims to advance chemistry worldwide. "It runs entirely like a United Nations," says Henry, sporting a blue tie bearing the IUPAC logo of a pair of globes tied together with chemical apparatus.

The union promotes information sharing among governments, academics and industry, sponsors projects and conferences, addresses global issues as a non-partisan organization and helps increase public understanding of chemistry. It's also responsible for maintaining common standards worldwide for chemical nomenclature, units and atomic weights, including the names on the periodic table familiar to any chemistry student.

If being elected president is an honour, Henry allows that it's also the biggest challenge he's ever faced. A key challenge will be to counter negative perceptions of his field, particularly in a post-Bhopal world that equates chemicals with health and environmental problems. He points to calls for banning chlorine outright, despite its ubiquity in everything from seawater to table salt to many antibiotics.

"I have to go out there and convince companies that if they want governments to respond rationally to issues like endocrine disruptors or chlorine, their best bet is to support organizations like IUPAC," he says, explaining that he hopes to draw more chemical companies into the organization.

Under one project called Chemrawn, IUPAC has studied such issues as better food sources for developing countries, protection of food and water supplies, and disease control. Recently, IUPAC studied how to assess countries' claims about chemi-

cal weapon production or control.

He also aims to help raise the profile of the chemical industry in developing countries and developed nations alike. In Canada alone, it's a \$40-billion-a-year industry, making it the fourth-largest sector in the country.

"Our standard of living is more dependent on chemistry than on anything else," says Henry.

Canada belongs to IUPAC through the National Research Council (NRC). The Canadian National Committee (CNC) for IUPAC, which includes members from the NRC, universities and industry, is responsible for facilitating Canadian participation in IUPAC. That committee also nominates Canadians for IUPAC bodies and runs an award program to help young chemists and chemical engineers present papers at overseas conferences run by the organization.

"Of all the things I've done outside the University, I have found IUPAC the most rewarding," says Henry, who has belonged to CNC-IUPAC since 1995.

Among a long list of activities, he has served as president of the Chemical Society of Canada and has chaired the Chemical Institute of Canada (CIC) and the CNC. He has won awards from the Spectroscopy Society of Canada, the Society of Chemical Industry and the CIC.

"These types of outside activities get our university out into government and industry circles," he says. "It's a way of establishing our presence in the chemistry community."

Hamid Jorjani, senior adviser, international relations, for the NRC in Ottawa, says Henry's election gives Canada a voice in international science and technology issues, including the use of science in sustainable development and education in developing countries.

"We are proud that a Canadian is once again sitting at the helm of this organization," he says.

The union was established to develop international standards for chemical names and units, allowing chemists around the world to communicate. It also became the international arbiter for naming new chemical elements — no small responsibility, says Henry, adding that scientists have periodic disagreements about what constitutes a new element.

Besides his election, this summer's gathering in Ottawa saw a new element officially entered on the periodic table. It took 10 years of research before scientists confirmed the existence of darmstadtium (named for the town in Germany where it was discovered). The heaviest confirmed element, darmstadtium survives for mere thousands of a second after its creation in rare accelerator reactions.

BY ANDREW VOWLES

# Historical Census Data Go Digital

Cross-disciplinary team will turn portion of handwritten 1891 census information into digital data that can be crunched any number of ways

**C**RAMPED HANDWRITING in black ink fills the rows of boxes, capturing the facts for posterity. In 1891, Amelie Carson was a 38-year-old widow of the Catholic faith who lived with her eight-year-old son, Joseph, in a two-storey wood frame house in Hamilton. Born in Ontario to parents from Ireland, she was a grocer who supplemented her income by taking in two lodgers, Helena O'Callaghan, 55, and Freddie Cronan, 13. All members of the household could read and write.

Carson was one of 2,114,000 people across Ontario who were enumerated for the 1891 Census of Canada. And she has a one-in-20 chance of becoming part of a 21st-century research initiative that's now under way at U of G.

In the summer, a team of faculty, students and staff from the Department of History and the Department of Economics launched the University's new Historical Data Laboratory. Their collective mission is to turn five per cent of the handwritten 1891 census information, already available to the public on microfilm, into digital data that can be easily crunched any number of ways to answer wide-ranging social and economic questions about that era.

The cross-college, cross-disciplinary team expects to complete the Ontario portion of the census by 2004 and, if funding continues, to cover the rest of the country by 2008.

The end result, called a public-use microdata sample, will open an important window to Canada's past, says Prof. Kevin James, History, who directs the census project with Prof. Kris Inwood, Economics.

"It's a fun project, even though it's very detailed and we have to be quite picky," says James. "We're trying to create a database through the most accurate transcription of what was on the enumerator's page in 1891. Digitizing this information and making it accessible in new ways will greatly encourage its use."

U of G's census project will close a key gap in the continuum of census microdata samples that now stretches from 1851 to the present. Other Canadian universities are working to fill in other gaps, with the result that digitized data sets are complete or under way for all census years except 1861 and 1961. A multi-university team led by the University of Ottawa is currently creating parallel microdata samples for the 1911 to 1951 censuses and has greatly aided the Guelph team's work, Inwood says.



Old census records become digital data in U of G's new Historical Data Laboratory in the MacKinnon Building. Members of the census project include, from left, co-ordinator Jean Dalgleish, research assistant Christina Wakefield, Prof. Kevin James, Prof. Douglas McCalla and research assistant Sarah Purton.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Canada's efforts to build this digital research infrastructure follow the example set by the United States, where the use of census microdata samples for research is far advanced. That country has microdata samples for each of its 19th- and 20th-century censuses, except for 1891 because those records were lost in a fire.

That loss has U.S. researchers anxiously awaiting the results of Guelph's census project, says Inwood. "They look at our 1891 and get really excited. They can use it to fill in what happened in the States."

Guelph stepped forward to take on the 1891 census as part of the mandate of Prof. Douglas McCalla's Canada Research Chair in Rural History. Funded by the Canada Foundation for Innovation, the project advances several research agendas at U of G.

The 1891 census is considered particularly important because of the type of information it contains and its timing as "the last census year before the Canadian population explodes with a major wave of immigrants," says Inwood. It will provide the final set of benchmark data (following the 1871 and 1881 microdata samples that are already available) to show trends for the era before rapid population growth transformed the country.

Historical census data are valued

for two key reasons. They provide a complete and accurate picture of the whole of society at a point in time, and the information they contain is no longer deemed confidential (after 100 years). That allows researchers to link the names in the census with other sources of information.

*"We're trying to create a database through the most accurate transcription of what was on the enumerator's page in 1891. Digitizing this information and making it accessible in new ways will greatly encourage its use."*

"The census is one of the very best sources for catching everybody in society in a way completely necessary to the work I do, which seeks information on people and processes invisible in many standard kinds of documents," says McCalla. He is writing a history of Canadian settlement from the perspective of farm families, rather than the fur traders who have been at the centre of early Canadian economy history.

"This will offer us enormous in-

sight into the structure of rural Canada in 1891," he says.

The 1891 census is also prized for the detailed way it enumerates occupation, a plus for Inwood, who has a special interest in women's participation in the economy.

"It's clearly interesting in terms of recapturing our past and understanding where we're going, which you can't see unless you have long-term perspective," he says.

James's ongoing research into Irish and Scottish migration patterns will benefit from census information on the birthplace of each individual's parents, recorded for the first time in 1891.

The census is also the first to record the relationships between people living together, something that will help researchers make more accurate assumptions about the patterns in previous census years.

In the Historical Data Lab on the eighth floor of the MacKinnon Building, a handful of history and economics students painstakingly transfer information from microfilm to the database, under the supervision of project co-ordinator Jean Dalgleish.

A software program developed by the University of Minnesota randomly selects the census pages that become part of the sample. After data are entered, they must be verified and any errors fixed.

"We try to establish the accuracy of input by testing it," says James. "The students are looking for everything from typos to questions of interpretation posed by the data where information recorded might be ambiguous or unclear. We found one situation, for example, where a two-year-old child was listed as a farm-hand."

The work teaches undergraduate and graduate students "incredibly useful" skills, says McCalla. "They're learning a lot about a source they can use across a wide range of research projects, and in the process, they learn about censuses in general and about working with other kinds of large data sets."

One history undergraduate student, Christina Wakefield, found information about her cousin's great-grandfather, Benjamin Beley, who was one of the first people to settle in Humphrey Township around Lake Rosseau.

"I grew up hearing stories about his life in Canada, so it was really exciting to find him and his family in the census," she says. "It reminds me that the names we enter into our database were real people and not just data."

On completion, the 1891 census microdata sample will be publicly available from the McLaughlin Library's Data Resource Centre.

It will be one more piece in an ever-expanding puzzle as more and more countries around the world turn their own censuses into digital data. Countries in Latin America, Europe and Asia are also engaged in census projects, which will eventually enable international comparisons.

Inwood says the surge in interest and activity is due partly to advances in information technology, which make these projects possible, and partly to the efforts of American census experts "reaching out to the rest of the world to create parallel databases."

Indeed, Guelph's role in opening this new frontier of academic research comes from many layers of collaboration — between disciplines and departments, between universities and countries — a massive joint effort to shake big-picture patterns and perspective from the diverse lives of people like Carson and Beley.

"It couldn't happen for each of us alone," says Inwood. "It's the bringing together of everyone that's been so fruitful. It has become an international movement to recapture this kind of evidence about the ways people lived."

BY STACEY CURRY GUNN

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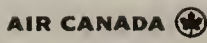
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# A BALANCING ACT

*PhD candidate juggles science, politics, family and a passion for cycling*

By Andrew Vowles

**S**HE WON THE ELECTION, but Maggie Laidlaw figures the real fight is only beginning. The longtime U of G student and staff member, who was re-elected to her Ward 3 council seat for a second term last month, predicts a tough three years ahead for herself and the few other left-leaning councillors remaining after Guelph voters turfed out several of her like-minded colleagues. But the rarely reticent Laidlaw will approach this changed political landscape as she has many other political situations in the past: "I'm going to be vocal."

She'll also need to be organized, although that shouldn't pose a problem for Laidlaw, a nutritional sciences PhD candidate who, besides trying to stay on top of her thesis and her responsibilities at city hall, was appointed interim director of the Human Nutritional Research Unit (HNRU) this summer.

She admits her professional and political pursuits make for a tricky balancing act. But not for nothing does her PhD supervisor, Prof. Bruce Holub, credit her with "excellent" co-ordination and planning skills.

As for continuing to be heard on council, Tim Mau, senior development officer for the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences and an adjunct professor in the Department of Political Science, predicts Guelph citizens will be hearing more, not less, from her.

"Maggie is very outspoken," says Mau, who has interviewed Laidlaw more than once for his local cable TV show, *Politically Speaking*. "She doesn't shy away from political fights. She's very passionate about making the community a better place."

At first glance, Laidlaw's campus office — tucked away behind the Health and Performance Centre in the Powell Building — appears an unlikely location for such a visible and self-described "vocal" politician. But it's not far into the conversation before what Holub calls her "passion" for her work and studies begins to surface.

What also becomes evident is how Laidlaw weaves together the seemingly disparate strands of her life as student, scientist and politician — and how those strands reach all the way back to her hard-scrabble childhood in a working-class Glasgow neighbourhood.

With the election now behind her, Laidlaw says she's looking forward to completing her PhD early next year. That doctorate has taken her along several related paths since 1997, including the last three years spent pursuing her studies part time while serving that first council term.

Holub says Laidlaw has taken a lead role in studying the effects of various combinations of fish oil and borage oil on cardiovascular health. A paper they published last January in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* received a "very high" scientific rating. "At least one major company has come out with a product based on Maggie's research," he says, "and others are interested."

Laidlaw has also studied Guelph residents afflicted with rheumatoid arthritis to see the effects of natural health alternatives to drugs that are normally prescribed for this autoimmune disease. She's still analyzing the results of her research, but says subjects taking fish oil and borage reported such improvements as reduced soreness, stiffness and swelling compared with subjects taking a placebo.

Calling it an "underrated disease," she says rheumatoid arthritis is "the single disease that causes most elderly people to be institutionalized. It probably makes sense to put money into this area."

She hopes to find natural health alternatives for the affliction, a quest that grew out of her late father's experience. He was still active in his mid-70s until he suffered a fall. He then developed stiffness in his joints, followed by shingles, ulcers and other problems. The last three months of his life saw him in and out of hospital.

"He had a series of pharmaceutical drugs, and they eventu-



ally killed him," says Laidlaw. "I thought: There must be other ways to treat this disease."

Or to prevent it. A firm believer in preventive medicine, this 53-year-old keeps in shape by cycling regularly, including daily commutes to the University from her north Guelph home.

She allows that weekend cycling jaunts with her family attract more than a few second glances. She and her husband, David — an art teacher in Georgetown — and their son, Garth, all pedal recumbent bicycles; their daughter, Meghan, prefers an upright. "It's quite the sight to see," she says of their Sunday outings.

It was on a bike that she met her husband almost three decades ago, although she first considered him more a rival than a partner. In 1976, she cycled from British Columbia across most of Canada as a promotional event for that year's Olympic Games in Montreal. She recalls David's fanaticism about covering as much territory as possible each day — matched only by her own.

More recent — and more leisurely — trips have taken them to Stratford, Niagara-on-the-Lake and Wasaga Beach. Last year, the family cycled and camped from Guelph to Tobermory.

It was her enthusiasm for cycling that also helped steer Laidlaw toward politics. She had cycled for years in Toronto without a scrape, but was hit by a car in Guelph on her way to campus one evening. She helped form the Bicycle Users Group of Guelph to promote cycling as an environmentally friendly transportation alternative to cars and to ensure safety for cyclists. "That's where all the bike lanes in Guelph came from," says Laidlaw, whose bike advocacy earned her an environmental award in 1993.

That experience led to her involvement in several fledgling political movements, including Reform Guelph, a municipal democratic movement. She was the local candidate for Mel Hurtig's National Party of Canada in 1993 and had an unsuccessful run at the Liberal candidacy in 1999. Elected a school trustee in 1994, she first ran for council in 1997 and was elected on her second try in 2000.

There was more than bikes behind those efforts. She had worked on campus for 10 years as co-ordinator of a nutritional sciences lab, but lost her job in the mid-1990s, something she attributes to government budget cuts.

Long before that, however, she had become "politicized." That was back in her native Glasgow, where she had belonged to the Ban the Bomb movement as a student. "I used to go on marches, and my parents were horrified."

She traces her current interests in health and social issues to her upbringing as the second oldest of seven children growing up in subsidized housing. Her father patched together two full-time jobs as a welder and a house painter to support the family. Laidlaw remembers hand-me-down clothing, a water heater fed by shillings and the "luxury" of the occasional coal fire in the upstairs fireplace.

Life changed when the family moved to Canada, just after Laidlaw had completed high school. Her father had visited Canada during the Second World War and had always wanted to return. She confesses to playing an active role in that decision. Having fallen in love with Canada's wide-open spaces through a school project, she deliberately left information around the house for him to find.

They immigrated in 1967, not to the cosmopolitan Montreal or Expo or to those picturesque mountains of the West but to Cambridge. Still, Expo beckoned to a teenager fresh out of school, and Laidlaw wound up spending the summer in Montreal working as a nanny.

Later, after completing a lab technician course in Hamilton and working for a few years, she travelled the world by ocean liner, finding jobs along the way in Australia, New Zealand and England.

Laidlaw first came to U of G in 1980 to study applied human nutrition and completed a master's degree in 1985. After losing that job in the nutritional sciences lab, she ran a small nutritional counselling practice, then decided to return to school to do a PhD. During her studies, she landed a part-time job as a lab technician in HNURU and was named interim director after the departure of her predecessor, Prof. Julie Conquer, this summer.

Laidlaw predicts busy days ahead for the centre with the expected passage of new laws governing the welter of products that have appeared on health food store shelves over the past five years, often with more hype than science.

"Think of all the things needing clinical trials," she says, adding that she expects the HNURU will play a central role in working with regulators and food and drug companies.

Prof. Terry Graham, chair of the Department of Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences, praises Laidlaw's ability to juggle her University and political responsibilities.

"One of the things I really admire about her is that she has separated those very clearly. With her left-wing interest in society and politics, it would have been easy to carry that over when dealing with large industrial companies and multinationals."

She does draw a straight line between her work and studies at U of G and her involvement through city council in social and health issues, including membership on the boards of community agencies such as Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Assistance and Training and Onward Willow: Better Beginnings, Better Futures.

The idea of "better beginnings" for youngsters resonates with Laidlaw, who remembers the federally funded school milk program in Britain that was subsequently eliminated by the Thatcher government. With somewhat less enthusiasm, she recalls that old-style cod liver oil — "vile stuff" — that her mother used to spoon into her and her six siblings.

Cod liver oil for vitamins isn't quite the same thing as fish oils for battling heart disease or arthritis. But looking at her own research results today, Laidlaw allows that perhaps mum was right after all. She recalls times when she or her siblings would bring home school prizes, and her mother would say: "It was that cod liver oil. That's how come you're all so smart."



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# Installation of New Campus Phones Under Way in UC

*Computing and Communications Services posts phone tutorials on web*



Sonya Blake of Human Resources, second from left, gets help setting up her new telephone from Deborah MacDougall, ICM phone project co-ordinator, left, Lisbeth Sider, CCS communications officer, front, and Bill Apsit, manager of data and records.

PHOTO BY RACHELLE COOPER

**U**OF G'S NEW TELEPHONES have arrived and are being connected in the University Centre as outlined in the schedule posted on the Computing and Communications Services (CCS) website, which can be found at [www.uoguelph.ca/ccs/phone](http://www.uoguelph.ca/ccs/phone).

CCS would like to remind members of the University community on the old telephone system that an incoming call from the new system will appear to be an outside call because it will have a double ring. In addition, forwarding a call between the

old and new systems will not be possible.

In the new year, other buildings will be receiving the new phones as they receive the necessary cabling. To find out when your building will be receiving the new phones, refer to the schedule on the CCS website, which will be updated regularly. Phone installation takes about five minutes and will take place during the workday.

CCS has posted online tutorials on its website and will give all employees an instruction guide and

wallet-sized voice-mail guide with their new telephone. Users with new phones should call Ext. 58888 for technical support. ROLM phone users should continue to dial Ext. 54444 to report any problems.

Accessories compatible with the new phones, such as headsets, amplifiers and shoulder rests, are listed on the CCS phone website under "Business Lines" and can be ordered through Basics Office Products. CCS will provide adaptors to make ROLM phone headsets compatible with the new system.

## CCS Offers Filtering Services to Help Control Spam, Viruses

*Spam-filtering software assesses which incoming e-mails are probably junk*

**C**OMPUTING and Communications Services (CCS) is helping to control e-mail viruses and unsolicited junk e-mail in campus e-mail accounts with new virus and spam software.

The McAfee virus-filtering software installed on U of G mail servers this fall scans all inbound and outbound University mail for viruses. Some viruses do little but replicate, but others can cause serious damage by destroying files and affecting program and system performance, says Paul Briggs, manager of Campus Services in CCS.

When a virus is detected in the University's e-mail system, the McAfee software deletes the infected e-mail. It can also bounce it back to

the sender or notify the recipient.

"Over the summer, we gained sufficient confidence that our implementation of McAfee in our mail servers provides a good level of virus protection while not significantly hindering the flow of mail," says Briggs.

A new spam-filtering service based on SpamAssassin software is currently available from CCS to University staff, faculty and graduate students and is expected to be available to all undergraduate students in January. Spam-filtering software can significantly reduce junk mail by assessing the e-mails received and determining which messages are likely junk and which ones are probably legitimate.

E-mail messages with spam characteristics are diverted to a designated spam folder that users can open to assess the effectiveness of their filter settings.

"Although the use of these new services should help in reducing the amount of spam and virus-infected e-mails that are received by the University community, they will not eliminate them entirely," says Briggs. "CCS will continue to investigate new technologies in our effort to help University users in their fight against e-mail spam and virus attacks."

To subscribe to the CCS spam-filtering service, go to [www.uoguelph.ca/webcentral](http://www.uoguelph.ca/webcentral).

BY RACHELLE COOPER

# Study Examines Social Relations of Migrant Workers

*Geographic isolation and long hours on the job leave little chance for foreign farm workers to form relationships beyond employers, co-workers*

**A** FIRST-EVER review of Canada's 37-year-old Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program reveals that migrant workers contribute millions of dollars annually to national and local economies but are socially excluded from the communities they live and work in.

The study by Prof. Kerry Preibisch, Sociology and Anthropology, presented Nov. 21 in Ottawa, focuses on the social relations between migrant workers and farm employers and local communities.

"There's been a growing dependence on foreign workers in the Canadian agricultural sector," Preibisch says, "but there's a paucity of studies on the social and economic changes in rural communities that have accompanied this reliance, especially from the workers' perspective."

She interviewed a sample group of foreign migrant workers, employers, residents and business owners in the Simcoe and Niagara regions. The study was conducted for the North-South Institute, an Ottawa-based independent research group that focuses on international development.

The findings show that geographical isolation, combined with long work hours, leaves little opportunity for foreign workers to form relationships beyond those with employers and co-workers.

"As a result, local residents, for the most part, are either unaware of or choose to ignore the migrant community living in their midst," says Preibisch.

More than 15,000 foreign migrant workers are employed in Canada every year — 85 per cent of them in Ontario — under the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program, which began in 1966 in partnership with the Caribbean. It was extended to Mexico in 1974.

Workers may spend up to eight months a year in Canada. On average, their salaries start at \$7.20 an hour, from which they must pay taxes and employment insurance, contribute to the Canada Pension

Plan, and pay for food and living expenses.

"They work long hours, up to 70 or 80 hours six or seven days a week, wanting to earn as much money as they can while they're here," says Preibisch.

But a large percentage of those wages are staying right here, according to the research. In 2001, for example, the Canadian government collected more than \$9.5 million in income taxes from foreign migrant workers and \$3.4 million in employment insurance. Migrant workers also spent more than \$82 million in rural Ontario communities that same year.

"They take home a considerable number of goods with them, such as small and major appliances, power tools and electronics," Preibisch says. "But despite the significant eco-

nomic contributions, they are still, as a group, denied social membership in the community."

There are many reasons for the exclusion, ranging from language barriers to physical isolation to strict rules by employers that limit their mobility.

"The fact that the workers have limited social commitments in Canada is one of the reasons they are particularly valuable to employers," she says.

Efforts to integrate workers into the broader community have emerged in the last five years, mostly through the efforts of secular organizations, the study found.

"But they reach only a fraction of the thousands of migrant workers coming into Canada each year and cannot be considered a long-term measure for promoting the social in-

clusion of migrant workers," says Preibisch.

The study also found that most migrant workers described their relationship with their employers as "fair to good," although many have limited direct contact with them. Living conditions for migrant workers varied, ranging from very clean and almost like a hotel to overcrowded and dilapidated. There is an absence of regulations and enforcement for both living and working conditions, the report says.

"The human experience of migrant workers in Canada is largely dependent on the subjective goodwill of employers," says Preibisch.

The report makes a number of recommendations for the federal and provincial governments, employers and the countries supplying workers, including:

- reviewing migrant workers' contributions to employment insurance and pension plans;
- reviewing the addition of agricultural workers to the Occupational Health and Safety Act;
- mandating municipal and regional inspections of farms to ensure health and safety guidelines are being followed;
- holding government-sponsored workshops and public forums in rural communities to raise awareness of the migrant community;
- funding initiatives that address the social inclusion of migrant workers; and
- providing health and safety training, ensuring workers get at least one day of rest a week, and providing instructions in Spanish.

BY LORI BONA HUNT

## Omega-3 Bread a Healthy Alternative

*Fish powder in bread is absorbed effectively by the body, study finds*

**U**OF G RESEARCHERS have found that dried fish powder baked into bread is absorbed by the body as effectively as fish oil supplements are.

Prof. William Bettger, Human Biology and Nutritional Sciences, adjunct professor Julie Conquer and graduate student Terry McKay added microencapsulated fish oil to bread to give people omega-3 fatty acids through a commonly consumed food.

"Although the health benefits of oily fish are well-known, many Canadians still aren't getting a daily dose of omega-3 fatty acids because they're turned off by the taste or smell of fish or find it difficult to swallow the large soft-gel fish oil capsules," says Sauer. "Now that we know the body can get the omega-3s it needs through bread enriched with fish oil, it opens up the way people can make fatty acids part

of their diet."

Omega-3 fatty acids have been associated with decreased incidence of cardiovascular disease and mental disorders such as Alzheimer's disease and are necessary for properly maintaining human health from conception to childhood and throughout life. The body lacks the ability to make adequate amounts of some omega-3s for chronic disease treatment and prevention, so they have to be ingested through oily fish such as salmon, trout and tuna or through supplements.

To determine how effectively the body absorbs fish oil added to bread, the researchers conducted a study involving two groups. Each day for three weeks, one group took four fish oil soft-gel capsules while the other ate a third of a loaf of bread enriched with fish oil. This gave both groups a daily dose of 1,080 milligrams of omega-3 fatty acids. After a

three-week washout period, the groups switched regimens.

Blood samples were drawn at the beginning and end of the study to measure the participants' levels of docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) and eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA). DHA, one of the most important omega-3 fatty acids, is a major component of brain and eye tissue; EPA has anti-inflammatory properties. The results show that the participants consuming the omega-3 bread absorbed the same amount of fatty acids as did the group that took fish oil supplements.

Regardless of how the participants received their omega-3 fatty acids, they showed significant increases in DHA and EPA levels compared with their pre-study levels.

"Individuals who are taking fish oil capsules now have the option of reverting to a functional food to supplement their diets with omega-3 fatty acids knowing they won't lose

any potential health benefit," says Conquer. "People who aren't currently getting a daily dose of omega-3 could easily add it to their diet through something they probably already eat every day, just by choosing bread enriched with fish oil."

The bread used in the study, made in a conventional bread machine, was eaten as part of a meal and could be topped with cheese, peanut butter or other condiments. Study participants said they couldn't detect the fish oil in the bread.

Although there are products enriched with omega-3 fatty acids already available, such as eggs, milk and processed foods, few data exist on the changes in EPA and DHA levels after eating these products. Bread enriched with low levels of microencapsulated fish oil is already available in several countries, including Australia and Britain.

BY RACHELLE COOPER

## Electronic Books, Journals Give Users 24/7 Access

*Next phase will be to move out paper duplicates of the electronic journals to create more work and study space for students in McLaughlin*

**H**UNDREDS OF U OF G FACULTY, students and staff are across the country and around the world doing research and taking distance education courses. Recent additions to the McLaughlin Library's collection of electronic books and journals give members of the University 24/7 access to millions of articles and books, whether the user's in Guelph or Guatemala.

"What it means for faculty who publish, especially in the sciences, is that they're being given a significant competitive edge," says Tim Sauer, head of the McLaughlin Library's collections. "It may take three weeks to receive a journal from the Natural Science Library, but because we're providing electronic access, they can now access the same journal in minutes."

Sauer connects with universities and publishing companies around the world to make sure Guelph professors, researchers and stu-

dents have access to journals and books that allow them to complete their research effectively and efficiently. He recently purchased electronic access to all works published by Elsevier, the largest scholarly publisher of journals in the world, and to the Eighteenth Century Collection Online (ECCO), a collection of virtually all British books published between 1700 and 1800.

Not all university libraries are able to provide access to such a large body of academic publishing because it comes with a hefty price tag, says Sauer. "Our acquisitions budget is close to \$6 million, and we spend about half of that on electronic journals."

Guelph and the University of Toronto are the only two Canadian universities with access to the 150,000 books that were published in the United Kingdom during the 18th century.

The ECCO books cover not only literature,

but also economic history, medicine, philosophy — "pretty much anything that was published during that century," says Sauer.

All Canadian universities subscribe to Elsevier's 1,500 medical, scientific and social science journals dating back to 1995, but only a handful have bought access to the back files, which include the works published from the 1950s or earlier to present, he says.

Sauer believes it's money well-spent.

"Electronic journals are independent of time and place. If you're in distance education or at one of our regional colleges, you've got the same resources as people on campus. And since we've now got a campus at Guelph-Humber, one electronic subscription serves all our clients. We don't need to pay for several paper subscriptions."

Part of the reason these electronic resources are so costly is the work involved in

digitizing either the microfilms or the original books. "Elsevier is in the process of digitizing the back files of all the journals it legally has the rights to," says Sauer.

There's a lot of labour involved in scanning some of the really old books because they're in such delicate condition. Once they're scanned, the background colour should ideally be restored to white to make the print easier to read.

"It's happening way faster than I would have ever guessed," he says. "Five years ago, if someone had asked me when we'd see digitized back files, I would have said not before I retire."

Sauer believes the next phase will be to move out the paper duplicates of the electronic journals to create more work and study space for students in McLaughlin, enabling the library to respond to the increased number of students at Guelph.

BY RACHELLE COOPER

## ACADEMIC INFO CORNER

Editor's note: This column is part of a continuing series running throughout the 2003/2004 academic year. It is written by David Horasby, academic commissioner of the Central Student Association, and Shari Dorr, co-ordinator of the Undergraduate Academic Information Centre.

**F**ALL 2003 CLASSES HAVE ENDED, and that means we're not far away from the release of both final grades and continuation-of-study results. Continuation of study is the University's policy that defines what level of achievement students must meet to continue in their academic program.

On admission, each student is assigned a "schedule" of the continuation-of-study policy based on criteria outlined in the policy; the schedule is also printed on the academic evaluation. The specific "schedule" considers the current term academic standing and the number of credits that have been attempted in identifying exactly what the student must achieve academically to continue in his or her program.

At the completion of each semester, every undergraduate student is assessed according to the continuation-of-study policy and is assigned one of three possible term academic standings: eligible to continue, probation or required to withdraw.

To be eligible to continue, a student must achieve a minimum cumulative average of 60 per cent. Generally, any student whose level of achievement falls below that for the first time is allowed to continue on probation. A student on probation must obtain a minimum semester average of 60 per cent to stay on probation and/or establish a minimum cumulative average of 60 per cent to be removed from probation and be eligible to continue.

Normally, a student on probation who doesn't achieve a minimum semester average of 60 per cent will be required to withdraw from the University. As of fall 2001, however, Guelph approved a change in how the requirements of the continuation-of-study policy are enforced for undergraduate degree programs. As a result, students who should have been required to withdraw at the end of a fall semester are allowed to

continue on probation into the following winter semester.

Students who find themselves in this situation should note, however, that if they choose not to register for the immediate winter semester or if they register for that semester and subsequently withdraw, their fall record will remain unchanged, and the term academic standing will revert to required to withdraw. If this happens, the University will consider the winter as the first semester of the required two-semester rustication period, and the student will be eligible to apply for readmission to Guelph for the following fall semester.

An application for readmission can be obtained from Admission Services or online at [www.uoguelph.ca/liaison/forms.shtml#reapplication](http://www.uoguelph.ca/liaison/forms.shtml#reapplication). Students in this situation should consult with their program counsellor about the procedures and criteria for readmission because it is not automatic.

If a student is not satisfied with an academic outcome or needs to submit coursework beyond the final class day for medical, psychological or compassionate reasons, he or she has the option of making a request for academic consideration. Such a request must be submitted to Undergraduate Program Services and/or the student's program counsellor as per the required dates listed in the undergraduate academic calendar.

Typical requests for academic consideration include a personal letter explaining the circumstance as well as supporting documentation. Requests are reviewed by the Academic Review Committee and responded to in a timely fashion. If a student wishes to appeal the committee's decision, an appeal can be made to the Senate Committee on Student Petitions, care of the judicial officer, within 90 days of the decision. For clarification, contact the Undergraduate Academic Information Centre or the Central Student Association academic commissioner.

The continuation-of-study and academic consideration policies are described in Section 8 of both the undergraduate calendar and the diploma programs calendar. These documents are available online at [www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars.shtml](http://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars.shtml).

## Antique Collectors Lend Period Pieces to President's House

*Furnishings will capture historical character of house*

**T**HE PRESIDENT'S HOUSE, one of the oldest buildings on campus, is getting an interior "makeover" thanks to the generosity of some prominent antique collectors.

The collectors, who wish to remain anonymous, are lending some period pieces for use in the house. Currently, no furniture in the home dates back to when it was built in 1882. In fact, most of the furnishings are from the early 1980s.

The furnishings will be managed by the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre. Centre director Judith Nasby broached the idea to the collectors, who have lent pieces to the art centre in the past for exhibitions and to Canada's official residences, such as Rideau Hall.

"I became aware that president Summerlee was looking for ways to capture the character of what the home was like in the 1880s but realized the University didn't have the financial resources to do this," says Nasby. "The collectors' loan of a part of their collection has made this possible. It's a wonderful opportunity to create a situation where 19th-century Ontario furniture can be shown and enjoyed."

All the furniture has been se-

lected to be functional and includes a sectional dining room table, various side tables and sofas.

"The dining room has a D-end table, which can be used in various ways, as it would have been in a 19th-century home," says Nasby.

In addition to the loan pieces, Nasby will be showcasing art from the University collection, ranging from 19th-century to contemporary art, and an 1840s candelabra that was a gift to U of G from one of the ancestors of a director of the Canada Company.

"Now we have the perfect context to show this important historical piece associated with the founders of Guelph," she says.

The loan includes oriental rugs in a variety of colours, styles and sizes. "They enhance the rich wood in the furniture, which ranges from native cherry to bird's eye maple to mahogany," says Nasby.

She expects to have all the artwork arranged by January and, over time, will occasionally change some of the pieces in the long-term loan.

Summerlee, who lives in his home near campus, is using the President's House to provide a venue to host University receptions and special events.

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# Book Grows Out of Fascination With Niagara Falls

Author examines three centuries of paintings, pictures, and literary and scientific travel narratives about the Falls

SOMETIMES THE SEEDS of scholarly inspiration are sown early in life. That was the case for Linda Revie, a sessional lecturer in the School of English and Theatre Studies, who has channelled her childhood fascination with Niagara Falls into an academic study of the great North American icon.

In September, Revie published her first book, *The Niagara Companion: Explorers, Artists and Writers at the Falls From Discovery Through the 20th Century*. It adds Canadian perspective to the mostly American body of academic literature about the Falls.

In the book, she examines three centuries of paintings, pictures, and literary and scientific travel narratives about Niagara Falls. She starts with the first written description — by French priest Louis Hennepin in 1683 — and the first drawing based on his report to see how these records, and the ones that followed, influenced how people looked at the Falls.

Revie says her analysis looks at “the things that have changed and the things that have stayed the same” over time in the depictions of the landscape and the people of the area. She puts those changes in their historical, cultural, societal, literary and geological contexts.

The key theme that emerges is the human struggle to control things, she says. That struggle is first seen in people’s efforts to control their own responses to the Falls, based on their philosophies.

Early reactions were in the realm of the “sublime,” a philosophy of how people related to the natural world, says Revie. They wrestled with their awe and fear of nature and sought to be mastered by it.

“They were completely petrified. They felt inadequate, breathless, like they would toss themselves in.”

That type of experience was so touted “that people who didn’t feel those things were disappointed . . . and as the Falls became more touristy, it was harder and harder to feel that kind of fear.”

Revie has found that, over time, issues of control were transferred to the depiction of First Nations people,



Seasonal lecturer Linda Revie's fascination with Niagara Falls began many years ago on annual family trips to the region.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

ple, the Niagara landscape and the development of tourism and industry.

When the first European “discoverers” of Niagara arrived, First Nations people were guides and porters who helped them through the landscape. As the borders and politics changed with wars, the North American natives became either allies or enemies of the European powers and were depicted as such — either as “armed, savage, scary” people or as escorts or labourers.

By 1910, when *The Niagara Companion* concludes, writers and artists had moved from frequent depictions of native figures and nature to depictions of machines — the great hydroelectric structures that are today a major source of power for Ontario and New York State.

The book also chronicles geological changes, including rock slides and erosion. When Hennepin arrived, he reported seeing three huge waterfalls, says Revie, but today there are only two — Horseshoe Falls on the Canadian side and the American Falls.

“It’s debated whether the three-waterfall description was an error or

a geological change,” she says.

There were also suggestions, beginning with geologist Charles Lyell in the 1840s, that the Falls were retreating, crawling back three feet a year, says Revie.

“Pictures were drawn and surveys taken to warn people of this. Geologists were interested in saving Niagara from itself, in saving nature from killing itself, so they cemented and plugged it for tourism and hydroelectric reasons. They constructed plants to take best advantage of water flow.”

Revie’s study of Niagara officially began as her PhD dissertation at Boston College, but her fascination with the Falls started many years earlier on annual family trips to the region.

“It was like a pilgrimage for me in

the best sense of the word. I was very interested even as a young child in the differences on either side of the border. I saw the Canadian side as very neat but a tourist mecca, while the American side was much more devoted to industry and didn’t seem to appreciate the nature of the place in many ways.

“I enjoyed being on the border of a country and thinking: ‘That’s a whole new country on the other side, a different place.’ I liked seeing the similarities and the differences, hearing people’s accents and standing on the line (on the Rainbow suspension bridge) with one foot on the Canadian side and one foot on the American side.”

Today, Niagara remains an “aquatic magnet” for her, a natural

phenomenon not diminished by the tawdry commercialism around it.

“I really enjoy rivers. The Niagara River seems to be the mighty river of them all in my mind and an icon important for the Niagara region, the history of Canada and the United States and any visitor coming from abroad. We tend to think of it as kind of cheesy, but it’s not.”

Visitors to North America have “the most authentic kind of experience that we lack,” she says. “They’re in awe of it, and I like watching that reaction. It goes back centuries.”

Revie has had the pleasure of seeing like-minded souls snap up *The Niagara Companion* during two book signings this fall on both sides of the border. “I watched 90 copies get sold. As an academic, I found it a joy to see my readers.”

Revie is now working on a completely different research project about Kitchener boot manufacturer A.R. Kaufman and the birth control business he ran on the side. She recently received a \$4,000 Hannah Grant from Canadian-based Associated Medical Services Inc. to help cover her research expenses and hopes to publish either a book or series of papers next summer.

Besides teaching at U of G, Revie has found time to write a novel titled *Damels, Dragons and the Giant’s Rib*, for which she is seeking a publisher. Again, Niagara figures prominently, this time as the setting (the Giant’s Rib is a geological term for the Niagara Escarpment).

Through fiction and non-fiction, Revie has managed to lay her long-time obsession with Niagara to rest, at least for a time, she says.

“Not that the obsession will go away. I just need to move on to other things.”

BY STACEY CURRY GUNN

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# Project Looks at Dad Issues

Continued from page 1

practitioners. SSHRC is providing \$999,750 over five years under its Community-University Research Alliances program. FIRA has secured an additional \$675,000 in public and private support from eight participating universities and more than 25 community partners.

Fathering occurs under many conditions and many family contexts, depending on factors such as ethnicity, background and sexual orientation, says Daly. "One of our goals is to look specifically at what it's like to be a dad under those circumstances, what the challenges are, and develop research and programs to address those challenges."

Research will focus on issues raised by seven subgroups: immigrant fathers, gay fathers, new fathers, young/teen fathers, divorced fathers, aboriginal fathers and fathers with children with special needs.

"This project is unique because our agenda was formed based on the needs and shared interests of fathers themselves, rather than on theory," says Daly.

Researchers will also work with service providers and policy-makers.

He hopes to generate a baseline of Canadian knowledge that can contribute to public decision-making and community and policy development. "Research on father involvement in Canada has lagged behind research in other developed countries."

FIRA also aims to heighten awareness of father involvement and engage dads in a process of change.

The benefits of father involvement are well-established, says Daly. Children of involved fathers exhibit higher cognitive competency, emotional well-being, social competency and positive peer relationships. Men who actively participate in family life

report lower levels of distress and higher life satisfaction. Yet statistics show that Canadian men still spend only about two-thirds of the amount of time mothers do on child care, and only about 10 per cent of eligible fathers claim parental benefits, despite increased parental-leave benefits in recent years.

The growing perception that men and women are interchangeable between family and working worlds is not the reality, says Daly.

"There is still a need to address father involvement as a matter of gender equity because women continue to do more of the work at home. A major impetus for this project was the overall level of work and family stress that men and women are experiencing. Increasing father involvement is important in terms of providing an overall balance in work and home life."

BY LORI BONA HUNT

# SNO Facility Set to Expand

Continued from page 1

because the transformation appears to arise from a finite mass for neutrinos, and the Standard Model of Elementary Particles predicts neutrinos have no mass. The follow-up research used table salt as the main ingredient to obtain new measurements. Because it contains chlorine, salt provides for three times better sensitivity to detect all the neutrinos, so the measurements go much further in establishing the properties of neutrinos that cause them to change, Law says.

SNO is the only facility in the world that can make such accurate

detections because it includes a giant sphere filled with ultra-pure heavy water that contains heavy hydrogen. Neutrinos passing through break up the deuterium into a neutron and a proton, which is crucial to the measurement process. A third phase of data collection is expected to provide even further insight into neutrino properties.

"Guelph has profited tremendously from the affiliation with SNO," says Law, who notes that graduate students have worked through the various phases and co-op students have gained experience

at participating institutions.

In addition to Law, U of G researchers involved in SNO are Prof. Bernie Nickel, now-retired professors John Simpson and Robin Ollerhead, researchers Pillalamarri Jagam and Ian Lawson, and graduate student Hendrick Labranche.

The project, which received support from the CFI's International Joint Ventures Fund, also includes Laurentian University, Queen's University, the University of Montreal and the University of British Columbia.

BY LORI BONA HUNT



## Where Are You Now?

If you know where this photo was taken on campus, be the first to submit the correct answer and you'll be recognized with a mention in the next issue of @Guelph and have your name entered in a draw this month for a \$50 gift certificate from the U of G Bookstore. Send your response to [r.cooper@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:r.cooper@exec.uoguelph.ca) or call Ext. 56982. The first person to correctly identify last week's photo as Massey Hall was Linda Hoffman of the Office of Research. PHOTO BY MARY DICKIESON

## @GUELPH

### PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

| Publication Date | Deadline | Publication Date | Deadline |
|------------------|----------|------------------|----------|
| Jan. 14          | Jan. 6   | March 10         | March 2  |
| Jan. 28          | Jan. 20  | March 24         | March 16 |
| Feb. 11          | Feb. 3   | April 7          | March 30 |
| Feb. 25          | Feb. 17  | April 21         | April 13 |

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# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR RENT

Two-bedroom semi-detached home in quiet Fergus neighbourhood, parking for two vehicles, non-smokers, no pets, available Feb. 1, \$880 a month inclusive, 843-6536.

Partially furnished one-bedroom main-floor apartment in old University area, 10-minute walk to campus, suitable for non-smoking grad student or visiting researcher, available Jan. 1, \$750 a month inclusive, 826-9680 or jcoventr@uoguelph.ca.

One bedroom in new three-bedroom townhouse on Edinburgh Road next to Ultramart, appliances, Megan, 416-518-2188.

Furnished three-bedroom heritage home close to campus, two studies, two baths, formal living room with fireplace, available Jan. 1 to May 15, \$1,200 a month plus utilities, 824-9203 or ncarson@uoguelph.ca.

Furnished two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes, France, weekly or monthly; furnished one-bedroom apartment in Paris, short-term rental, fnmoll@webtv.net.

Furnished house in downtown area on the river, available Jan. 1, Feb. 1 or March 1, \$1,200 a month includes biweekly cleaning, 836-4186 or learning@sentex.ca.

Three-bedroom house, close to campus, mall and bus stop, dishwasher, microwave, laundry, one parking space, available Jan. 1, \$1,200 a month plus utilities, 822-6765 or gloriac@uoguelph.ca.

## FOR SALE

1992 Plymouth Grand Voyager SE-7 minivan, well-maintained, two new tires, air, 238,000 kilometres, mostly highway driven, 821-0747 after 6 p.m.

Christmas trees, choose your own or freshly cut, white spruce and Scotch pine, no herbicides or pesticides, Blackberry Bog just south of Elora, 843-5915.

Professional aerial photograph of U of G, 16" x 20" with matte, mahogany frame, Ext. 53044 or 821-1879.

Home theater system (without TV): two floor-model Abstract speakers and two rear Angstrom speakers, JVC audio/video amplifier receiver,

RCA DVD player, includes cables and accessories; JVC audio/video amplifier receiver, two bookshelf Acoustic Research speakers, Cambridge Soundworks four satellite and subwoofer computer speakers, includes cables and accessories, prefer to sell as package, sradhakr@uoguelph.ca.

Handmade wooden clothes dryers, Ext. 56580.

Two-piece sofa set; large table and four chairs; small table with four chairs; girl's bedroom set; single mattress, box and frame; adult's bike; child's tricycle; child's bicycle carrier; Singer juicer; pressure cooker; deep fryer/steamer; TV stand; office chair; folding chairs; kettle; toaster, 824-5440 or suzanne-fold@yahoo.com.

Renovated 800-square-foot 1½-storey home at 71 Stevenson St., new carpeting throughout main floor and upstairs, new vinyl flooring in kitchen, updated bath, visit www3.sympatico.ca/pteesdale for photos.

Two Samurai Pro Series speakers, Model 518, 300 watts, digital ready, Tricia, 837-2457.

Goddess snowboard with liquid bindings; Lamar boots, size 10, Mary, 836-1836 or mgrebene@uoguelph.ca.

## AVAILABLE

Private tutoring in English lit, essay writing and film studies, manuscript evaluation by author, Oxford MA and professor emeritus, 821-1973.

Tutoring in chemistry, Spanish and French; accredited translator for

English to Spanish and Spanish to English, fast turnaround, 836-9204 or cdesalas@sympatico.ca.

Care for your dog in my home while you travel, Cobi, 836-8086 or cdeimmers@uoguelph.ca.

Improvements to presentations, brochures and spreadsheets in Word, Excel, CorelDraw, WordPerfect and PowerPoint, reasonable rates, first half-hour free; tutoring/coaching in computer skills, Anne, 767-9618 or amcmurra@uoguelph.ca.

## WANTED

Housesitter for four-bedroom house in Southampton, England, from Jan. 15 to April 15, 821-2133 or jleslie@uoguelph.ca.

Healthy subjects for winter study of the common cold and a natural herbal product, financial compensation, Maggie, Ext. 53749 or laidlawm@uoguelph.ca.

Hewlett Packard LaserJet III printer with legal-sized paper copying dispenser, Marj, 824-1628.

ESL teacher for short oral communication course for graduate students, beginning in January, university-level teaching experience required, Beth or Barbara, Ext. 52320.

Classifieds is a free service available to staff, faculty, students, alumni and retirees of the University. Submit items to Linda Graham on Level 4 of the University Centre, fax to 519-824-7962 or send e-mail to lgraham@exec.uoguelph.ca. To reach U of G extension numbers, call 519-824-4120.

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## ARBORETUM

The Arboretum's Sunday afternoon walks continue Dec. 7 with "Christmas Folklore" and Dec. 14 with "Christmas Hike 'n' Craft." The walks leave from the Nature Centre at 2 p.m. A donation of \$3 is suggested.

The Arboretum's Theatre in the Trees presents the farce *Boeing Boeing* by Marc Camoletti and Beverly Cross until Dec. 13. For tickets, call Ext. 54110.

Naturalist Chris Earley is offering an owl workshop titled "A Who's Who in Ontario" Jan. 16 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., to be followed by an owl prowl from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Cost is \$65. Registration and payment are due Jan. 5.

Naturalist Zoe Fitzgerald leads owl prowls Jan. 30 and 31 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Cost is \$12 for adults, \$6 for children or \$30 for a family of four. Deadline for registration and payment is Jan. 16.

## ART CENTRE

In conjunction with the exhibition "Wheels of Time," the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre presents a performance by percussionist Jesse Stewart Dec. 9 at 3:30 p.m.

## ATHLETICS

The women's hockey Gryphons host the Durham Jrs. Dec. 15, Waterloo Jan. 7 and Toronto Jan. 9, with all games beginning at 7:30 p.m. The men's team is at home to St. Clair College Dec. 30 at 7 p.m. and Laurier Jan. 10 at 7:30 p.m.

The men's volleyball Gryphons take on Winnipeg Jan. 3 at 8 p.m. Guelph hosts Windsor Jan. 7, with the women's teams playing at 6 p.m. and the men's at 8 p.m.

The basketball Gryphons host Rye-son Jan. 9 and Toronto Jan. 10, with the women's teams playing at 6 p.m. and the men's at 8 p.m.

## CONCERT

Two U of G music students — soprano Erin Linke and pianist Michael McLeod — will give their final recitals Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. in War Memorial Hall. Linke will be accompanied on piano by Betty Maher. Everyone is welcome.

## NOTICES

The U of G Library will operate on a reduced schedule and with limited services during the holiday and between-semester period. From Dec. 12 to 23, the McLaughlin Library will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday to Friday and noon to 7 p.m. on the weekend. The OVC Learning Commons will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and closed on the

weekend. Both libraries will be open Dec. 24 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and closed Dec. 25 to Jan. 1.

Prof. Ian Newby-Clark, Psychology, is conducting a study on the lifestyles of people living with diabetes. If you're interested in participating in the study, call Ext. 53307 or send an e-mail to [lifestyle@uoguelph.ca](mailto:lifestyle@uoguelph.ca).

The Canadian International Development Agency invites submissions of papers on corruption and its links to aid effectiveness for publication in its new quarterly, *The Journal of Development Policy and Practice*. For more information, call 819-953-9964 or send e-mail to [rakumar\\_shanker@acdi-cida.gc.ca](mailto:rakumar_shanker@acdi-cida.gc.ca).

The International Development Research Centre's AGROPOLIS international research awards in urban agriculture are open to researchers who have earned a PhD in urban agriculture or a related field and who wish to specialize further in their field. Application deadline is Jan. 31. For details, visit [www.idrc.ca/cfp](http://www.idrc.ca/cfp).

A master's student working with Prof. Paula Brauer, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, seeks men and women aged 40 to 65 to pilot test a new questionnaire on weight history. Participation in the project will involve completing a questionnaire at home and a 30- to 60-minute interview. Confidentiality is assured. If interested, leave a message at Ext. 58964 or send e-mail to [egregg@uoguelph.ca](mailto:egregg@uoguelph.ca).

The Canadian Consortium on Human Security invites proposals for its 2004/05 doctoral dissertation fellowships, post-doctoral fellowships and non-academic fellowships. Deadline for submissions is Jan. 16. For details, visit [www.humansecurity.info/fellowships\\_1.htm](http://www.humansecurity.info/fellowships_1.htm).

The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada announces the launch of the 2004 UPDC Tier 2 competition. Program guidelines are on the web at [www.aucc.ca/updc-puoc/applications/index\\_e.html](http://www.aucc.ca/updc-puoc/applications/index_e.html). Letters of intent are due Feb. 6.

## SEMINARS

Next up in the Department of Physics seminar series Dec. 9 is Richard Price of the University of Utah describing "Gravitational Waves, Lasers, Black Holes, Supercomputers and Approximations." The talk is at 4 p.m. in MacNaughton 222.

The Department of Pathobiology presents PhD candidate Shivani Ojha discussing "Hunting for Virulence Genes" Dec. 12 at 2 p.m. in Pathobiology 2106.

## TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services' training and development opportunities for faculty and instructional staff con-

tinue with "Applying Universal Instructional Design" Dec. 11 and "WebCT: Hands-on for First-Time Users" Dec. 15. TSS is also offering demonstrations of the technology in Rozanski Hall Dec. 9 and 11 and a luncheon for new faculty Dec. 15. Details and online registration for all TSS events are found on the website [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca).

## THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Shana Truant, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Environmental Biology, is Dec. 3 at 1:30 p.m. in Graham Hall 3301. The thesis is "Assessment of Monitoring Techniques for Estimating Salamander Abundance in Boreal Mixed Wood Forest." The advisers are Prof. Gerry Stephenson and Dean Thompson of Canadian Forest Services.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Elizabeth Connor, Environmental Biology, is Dec. 4 at 9 a.m. in Bovey 1118. The thesis is "Modelling Efficacy of Control of Seedling Diseases of Chickpea Caused by *Rhizoctonia solani*." The adviser is Prof. Robert Hall.

The final examination of Shelby Steele, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Zoology, is Dec. 5 at 9 a.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "Ontogeny of Osmoregulation in the Little Skate, *Raja erinacea*." The adviser is Prof. Patricia Wright.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Blythe McKay, Rural Extension Studies, is Dec. 5 at 10 a.m. in Landscape Architecture 135. The thesis is "Enhancing Community Over the Airwaves: The Role of Community Radio in a Ghanaian Fishing Village." The adviser is Prof. Jim Shute.

The final examination of Frank Mena, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Environmental Biology, is Dec. 5 at 1:30 p.m. in Graham Hall 3301. The thesis is "Purification and Characterization of an Anticloram Single Chain Variable Fragment (scFv) Antibody From Transgenic Tobacco." The adviser is Prof. Chris Hall.

The final examination of PhD candidate Sharene Bungay, Mathematics and Statistics, is Dec. 8 at 9:30 a.m. in Thornbrough 1360. The thesis is "A Mathematical Model of Thrombin Generation in Vascular and Avascular Systems." The advisers are Profs. Rod Gentry and Pat Gentry.

The final examination of Francisco Santoyo, a PhD candidate in the Department of Animal and Poultry Science, is Dec. 9 at 9 a.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 141. The thesis is "Effect of Dietary 1,4-Diaminobutane as a Growth Promotant and Preventive Agent for Intestinal Bacteria in Broiler Chickens." The adviser is Prof. Trevor Smith.

The final oral examination of PhD candidate Kathy Hooper-McGrevy, Pathobiology, is Dec. 15 at 9:30 a.m. in Pathobiology 101. The thesis is "Antibody and Immunity in *Rhodococcus equi* Pneumonia of Foals." The adviser is Prof. John Prescott.

The final examination of Rebecca Ann Crane, a PhD candidate in the Department of Microbiology, is Dec. 16 at 1 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 141. The thesis is "The Genetic, Biochemical and Functional Characterization of ProQ, a Regulator of the Osmosensor, Osmoregulator ProP of *Escherichia coli*." The adviser is Prof. Janet Wood.

The final examination of PhD candidate Maria Urdaneta, Animal and Poultry Science, is Dec. 17 at 9 a.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 141. The thesis is "Effect of Dietary Crude Protein Level on the Lysine Requirements of Young Broiler Chickens." The adviser is Prof. Steve Leeson.

The final examination of Cory Wenzel, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Microbiology, is Dec. 18 at 9 a.m. in Food Science 128. The thesis is "Characterization of WbpD, an Acetyltransferase Required for O-Antigen Biosynthesis in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* Serotype O5." The adviser is Prof. Joseph Lam.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Susan Evans, Zoology, is Dec. 18 at 2 p.m. in Axelrod 265A. The thesis is "Selecting Candidate Marine Reserves: A Test in the Efficacy of Current Approaches." The advisers are Profs. John Roff and Tom Nudds.

The final examination of Hamid Reza Haghighi, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Pathobiology, is Dec. 22 at 9:30 a.m. in Pathobiology 101. The thesis is "Assessment of vspA-DNA Vaccination Against *Rhodococcus equi* in Mice with Naked DNA and a *Salmonella* Vector." The adviser is Prof. John Prescott.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Sexual Assault Centre of Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis will hold a candlelight vigil Dec. 6 to mark a national day of remembrance and action on violence against women. It begins at 5 p.m. at Marianne's Park on Gordon Street. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call 836-1110.

The Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) in Cambridge, Guelph and Kitchener-Waterloo will hold a Montreal 14 Memorial Day Luncheon Dec. 6 at 11:30 a.m. at Whistle Bear Golf Course, 1316 Dickie Settlement Rd., Cambridge. Guest speaker is Priscilla de Villiers, founder of Canadians Against Violence. Tickets are \$35, with all pro-

ceeds going to the CFUW scholarship trust to support the 1989 Polytechnique Commemorative Award. For more information, call Elizabeth Taborek at 829-2374.

Rev. Canon Lucy Reid of U of G's multi-faith resource team is guest speaker at the Guelph Unitarian Fellowship Dec. 7 at 10:30 a.m. Her topic is "Spirituality and Work." Everyone is welcome.

The Guelph Chamber Choir presents Handel's *Messiah* Dec. 20 at 8 p.m. at the River Run Centre. Conducted by Gerald Neufeld, the choir will be accompanied by a baroque orchestra. For tickets, call 763-3000.

The Guelph Historical Society is again holding an essay contest. This year's topic is "Risky Business... an Entrepreneur in Guelph." Cash prizes are available. The deadline for submissions is Jan. 30. For more details, call Barbara Brooks at 824-3642.

More than 120 performers join forces for a special family holiday concert Dec. 13 at 7:30 p.m. at Church of Our Lady. "Christmas Legends" features the Guelph Chamber Choir, Guelph Youth Singers and Guelph Symphony Orchestra performing Benjamin Britten's *Saint Nicolas Cantata*, John Rutter's *Brother Heinrich's Christmas* and Gustav Holst's *Christmas Day*. The concert will feature tenor Glyn Evans and local actors Rosalind and Keith Slater as narrators. For ticket information, call 763-3000.

Wellington County Museum and Archives holds its annual Christmas festival Dec. 14 from noon to 4 p.m. The afternoon will include entertainment, activities for children, a visit from Santa Claus and an exhibit of textiles and Christmas trees.

The Elora Festival Singers conducted by Noel Edison will perform Handel's *Messiah* Dec. 14 at 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Church in Elora and a "Festival of Carols" Dec. 19 at 5 and 8 p.m. at St. John's Church. For ticket information, call 846-0331.

The Heart and Stroke Foundation is looking for volunteers to help out with its person-to-person campaign in February. Canvassers are needed to go door to door to collect donations and thank donors. For more information, call Arlene Heidbuurt at 837-4858.

Tom Allen, host of CBC Radio Two's *Music and Company*, headlines this year's CBC reading of Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m. at Dublin United Church. Music will be provided by the Tactus Vocal Ensemble. Proceeds from the event will go to support Wyndham House. Tickets are \$15 and are available at the Bookshelf, from event sponsor MacMillan Marketing Group or by calling 763-8040.